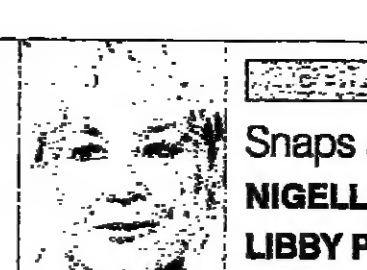


THE 150,000 GAME
Arsenal's John Jensen picks his team, leaders and latest scores, **PAGES 22,23**



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THE TIMES

No. 65,418

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7 1995

51-vote defeat for the Government

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

THE Government slumped to a humiliating defeat last night as the Commons voted decisively to force MPs to declare their outside earnings.

With about 18 Conservatives voting with Labour, the House decided by an astonishingly large margin — 51 votes — in favour of the Nolan committee call for the declaration of all fees related to MPs' parliamentary activities.

In so doing it rejected the conclusion of the Tory-dominated Select Committee on Standards in Public Life that such earnings

should remain confidential. It was one of a series of changes last night that will change for good the way the Commons operates.

The outcome was a blow for the Prime Minister who set up the Nolan committee after a wave of sleaze allegations against Tory MPs but who then threw his weight behind those of his backbenchers supporting non-disclosure.

He was last night being publicly and privately blamed by some Tory MPs both for establishing Nolan in the first place and then for allowing himself to be associated so strongly with a failed attempt to defeat one of the committee's main proposals. Labour was jubilant. Ann Tay-

lor, the Shadow Leader of the House, who moved the successful amendment calling for disclosure, spoke of "a very good night for the reputation of Parliament and a terrible night for the reputation of John Major". She said the result was right for the House of Commons and right for the whole system of government.

Mr Major, in Israel for the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin, did not take part in the vote on which he had staked his authority. Tony Blair and Paddy Ashdown were also in Jerusalem.

Shortly before the crucial vote, the House approved a ban on paid advocacy by MPs, a proposal that

went further than the original Nolan recommendations. MPs will now be prevented from advocating or initiating any cause on behalf of an outside body or individual through the use of speeches, motions, questions or amendments.

Mrs Taylor was loudly cheered by Tories when she said there were members on both sides who resented the fact that all MPs were getting a bad name because of the activities of a few. Tom King, Tory MP for Bridgwater, and a member of the Nolan Committee, pledged to back the ban on paid advocacy, but he voiced misgivings over the difficulties of making the distinction between advice and advocacy.

For the Liberal Democrats Robert MacLennan said the arguments against disclosure were specious and unconvincing.

Tony Newton, Leader of the Commons, said that a ban on paid advocacy went "significantly further" than the curbs proposed by Nolan. The key issue was that MPs should not be paid to initiate parliamentary proceedings or to initiate them on behalf of clients to whom they were paid advisers. In other words, they should not advocate in parliament the cause of outside interests from which they receive remuneration.

John Biffen, a former Commons

Leader and one of the Tory MPs backing disclosure, said the whole debate was driven by public unease about the affairs of parliament. MPs could not ignore "the forces outside this chamber".

Sir Edward Heath said the affair had been "appallingly handled" and should not have been rushed through. He said the public had a right to know about public salaries. "Why does the public have a right to know about financial reward for our individual private activities?"

He accused Labour of working on a doctrine of envy and hatred and said the Opposition could find no evidence to support the publication of financial information. "They

don't want to fight the election on policies, they want to fight it on envy and greed. This House has always been known as an honourable House and members as honourable members and that is the way we should behave in future."

Tim Sainsbury, a former minister, supported Tory backbenchers calling for new rules on disclosure to be introduced at the start of the next Parliament. "That does seem to me to be a much fairer and simpler system."

Matthew Parris, page 2
Debate, page 10
Woodrow Wyatt, page 18
Leading article, page 19

Arab statesmen lead tributes as Rabin is buried

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK RABIN, the rough-hewn Israeli soldier turned peacemaker extraordinary, was paid the ultimate tribute at his funeral yesterday when Arab leaders whom he had fought and defeated stood at his simple grave in the pine-scented cemetery named after Theodor Herzl, the father of modern Zionism.

In a potent sign of hope after his assassination by an extreme right-wing Jewish opponent of the Middle East peace process, the red and white chequered head-dress of King Husain of Jordan, the blue baseball cap worn as an impromptu head-covering by President Mubarak of Egypt and the curved daggers of the Omani delegation stood out among the grief-stricken crowd.

Both the Jordanian and Egyptian leaders were paying their first visits to Jerusalem since the Arab eastern sector was captured by forces led by Mr Rabin in 1967. The two survivors of numerous assassination attempts, appeared unmoved by the reality that their presence will increase the risk that Islamic militants will seek a symbolic revenge.

Israeli soldiers and officials standing near as earth was thrown on Mr Rabin's grave could scarcely restrain their emotion at the sight of the Jordanian monarch and Queen Noor weeping openly as the Kaddish, the prayer for the dead, was said by Mr Rabin's son, Yuval. "This sight would have been impossible to imagine just three years ago. It means that everything is not lost," one official whispered.

In keeping with the determination of Israel to use the remarkable funeral — attended by 22 presidents, 25 prime ministers and royalty including the Prince Charles of Wales — as a force to push the peace process forward, King Husain was given pride of place as eulogiser over Presi-



A man who changes is often a traitor in the eyes of those who can never change?

— Amos Oz, page 15

who 14 years ago was splattered with the blood of his predecessor, Anwar Sadat, when he became another casualty of the extremists for whom Middle East peace is the main enemy. In June, he survived a similar attempt in Addis Ababa.

The best memorial for Yitzhak Rabin is to continue what he started, which is the peace process," he told mourners who included Jimmy Carter, the former American President who masterminded the Camp David peace process and later attended Mr Sadat's funeral in 1981.

Up to a million Israelis filed past the flag-draped coffin before it was brought to the hillside cemetery overlooking the Holocaust memorial at Yad Vashem. Also present were representatives of four other Arab states, including Qatar, which last month agreed to start providing the Jewish state with natural gas in a ground-breaking deal, and of the Palestinian authority. The absence of its chairman, Yassir Arafat, because of "security concerns" was a jarring reminder of the many obstacles that remain in the way of any lasting settlement.

Shimon Peres, the acting Israeli Prime Minister, was quick to note the symbolism of the Arab presence. It included many Arab secret servicemen who co-operated with their Jewish counterparts and joined a huge security operation that included labrador sniffer dogs, helicopter gunships and 10,000 members of the Israeli security forces.

"Goodbye my older brother, the peacemaker," Mr Peres said of the man with whom he had often sparred politically in the past. "The man who murdered you will not be able to murder the idea that you carried. I see our Arab neighbours, and I want to tell them that peace is attainable, both here and with you."



Leah Rabin is comforted by her grandson as she touches her husband's coffin

Western support for the peace drive was headed by Mr Clinton and a formidable delegation of Americans who arrived in six jets. Accompanied by his wife, Hillary, the American President spoke of Mr Rabin as a chaver, the Hebrew word for "friend". Mr Clinton said: "Now it falls to all of us who love peace and

who loved him to carry on the struggle for which he gave his life."

Hundreds of the mourners broke into tears as Mr Rabin's 17-year-old granddaughter, Noa Ben-Artzi, shared her deeply personal memories of the grief but amiable man she called "our own private hero". The gut emotion became more

wrenching as an aide to the murdered Israeli Prime Minister produced the blood-stained paper containing the words of the *Song for Peace* that he had sung out of tune minutes before he was shot dead.

Reports, pages 14 and 15
Leading article, page 19

Lab mix-up led to abortion of healthy baby

By Jeremy Laurence
Health Correspondent

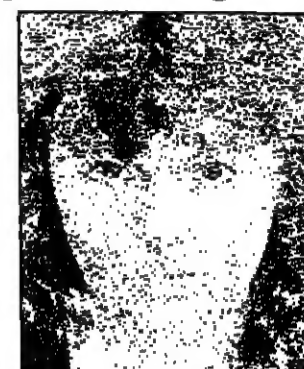
A HOSPITAL admitted yesterday that a laboratory mix-up led to a woman having her healthy baby aborted while a second, whose child had Down's syndrome, was told hers was normal.

When doctors carried out tests on the aborted foetus, which was a girl rather than the expected boy, there was no evidence of Down's syndrome and they realised there had been a mistake.

A sample of amniotic fluid from the second woman was then re-examined and, after further tests, Michelle Woods was told her baby had Down's syndrome. She had an abortion at 20 weeks.

Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge, which analysed the samples for the West Suffolk hospital in Bury St Edmunds, said yesterday that it had apologised to both women and procedures had been tightened. Both women were said to be devastated.

Ms Woods had been warned that she might be carrying a Down's baby after a routine blood test and when



Michelle Woods: had been given the all-clear

an amniocentesis test on fluid from her womb apparently gave her the all clear, she spent a weekend celebrating. But a few days later, she and her partner, Russell Barnard, 44, had their hopes dashed when the hospital telephoned to say there had been a mistake, and after a third test, she had an abortion.

Ms Woods, who has three other children, said: "I was over the moon, especially after all the worry. I'd gone to pieces after the blood test and waiting for the amnio results."

Continued on page 2, col 4

Tory suspended

A schoolboy whose views caused controversy at the Tory conference has been suspended by his local association. **Page 2**

Review The Times overseas
Australia \$2.50; Belgium 12.50; Cyprus £1.20; Denmark 14.00; Finland 17.00; Germany 14.00; Greece 12.00; Ireland 12.00; Italy 12.00; Luxembourg 12.00; Madeira 12.00; Malta 12.00; Norway 12.00; Portugal 12.00; Spain 12.00; Sweden 12.00; Switzerland 12.00; Turkey 12.00; USA \$3.50.



Bride back at church 20 years on — for divorce

By Ruth Gledhill
Religion Correspondent

A TEARFUL congregation stood as the organ played *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, Christina Stark's favourite wedding hymn. But Ms Stark was not getting married; the 50 guests had gathered in church to mark her divorce.

Ms Stark and Michael Gunning had been married for 20 years and she wanted a church service to symbolise the new beginning after their civil divorce.

The service is one of only a handful of its type to have taken place. But a growing number of people are seeking church services to mark such events, although no church has yet officially included them in its prayer books.

Ms Stark, who had sung the hymn *All*

Things Bright and Beautiful at her wedding, said: "Everyone I contacted said they had never heard of a divorce being marked in church, but they thought it was a good idea. There were quite a few guests who were at the marriage service. A lot of people who have gone through divorce said they wished they had done the same."

Ms Stark's parents and 17-year-old son Duncan Gunning were at the service and her former husband was invited, "but he said it was not his type of thing".

The Rev Fleur Houston who conducted the service at the United Reform Church in Upper Hanover Street, Sheffield, said: "As Christina was married in church, she felt that she needed to have the ending of the marriage marked in church, too. A lot of people do need a

release from the pain before they can start life again."

Mrs Houston wrote her own liturgy for the service, which lasted 45 minutes, and concentrated on remembering the good things which came from the marriage. The congregation sang hymns and said prayers for 42-year-old Ms Stark.

"The service was not a sombre affair and afterwards people were in a happy and relaxed mood," Mrs Houston said. "It is the first service of its kind that I have performed, but it seems to have worked well."

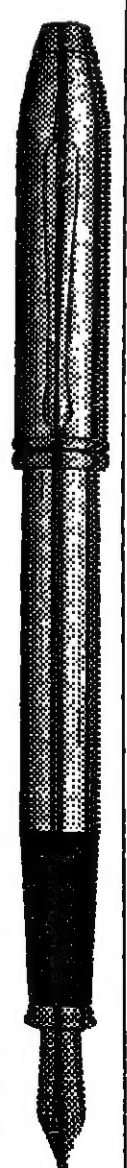
A spokesman for the Church of England said such services had been "mooted" at various times but nothing formal had been done.



Christina Stark: service for a new beginning

Photograph, page 24

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MPs stray from wonderland to wilderness

FORGET the small print. The House of Commons has got itself into a complete mess about Nolan.

The arrival in the Chamber of Barry Porter (C, Wirral South) with his arm in a sling, summed up the mood. Porter had been fingered by the weekend press in connection with a discussion (no more) about cash for deputations. Yesterday, bruised and dejected, his injuries expressed openly what many Members felt inwardly. "A sense of unease and distaste," was how John Biffen (C, Shropshire North) put it.

He understated. The Chamber was never full, the mood was not confident on the Government side and by no

means triumphalist among opposition MPs. Everybody seemed to be at cross-purposes. "Madam Speaker," spluttered a baffled Michael Fabricant (C, Mid Staffordshire) "if someone passes a motion in the House..."

Laughter. "What?" cackled Dennis Skinner. "On the Floor?" This was one of the few exchanges anyone understood.

Tony Banks (Lab, Newham North West) wanted to know whether a wildlife charity would be able to continue funding one of his research assistants without effectively gagging him in future wildlife debates. Tony Newton, Leader of the House, seemed to give him one answer, then



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

later to suggest another.

Roger Sims (C, Chislehurst) wondered why the word "advocate" did not include making speeches. Mr Newton told him it just didn't. Newton made threatening noises about MPs who wrote regular newspaper columns or competed TV programmes, the eyes of rat-like Tory backbenchers, whiskers aquirer, darting round the Chamber in search of Charles Kennedy, Austin Mitchell or Roy Hattersley to squeak at. When challenged on detail or

interpretation, both front benches floundered. Tony Newton gave us his usual impression of a seriously rattled bus conductor, while his shadow, Ann Taylor, seemed unconfident of her brief, hesitating (in response to an interruption from the Tories) Nigel Evans about railway union sponsored MPs' "advocacy" that "they... er... wouldn't have been paid directly".

Oddly enough, the Commons impasse concerning disclosure of fees did not seem to

unsettle yesterday's debate as much as a different issue. The question of disclosure is one of those simple rows MPs love best: you choose which side to be on, then thumb your nose at your opponents and call them villains. No, what seemed to derail a wretched debate before it even started was a doubt expressed by speaker after speaker. Banks, Sims, Biffen, and Tom King (who was on the Nolan Committee) all wanted to know how you define "paid advocacy"? Both front benches were supporting a ban on paid advocacy. Neither seemed to know what it meant.

As it is plain to the meanest intelligence that no fixed definition of paid advocacy will

ever be found, the whole debate took on an *Alice in Wonderland* quality. To a House anxious to know what the term would signify, Mr Newton stammered that it would signify what the House thought it would signify.

Your sketchwriter is no great brain. He intends it as anything but a boast when he suggests that five minutes' exploratory discussion on the top deck of a London bus, conducted at random with any passenger found there, would establish that (as John Biffen put it) "the moment we start trying to distinguish between advocacy and advice" we are in a wilderness.

Yesterday MPs wandered deeper into the wilderness.

Brixton IRA escapers freed and re-arrested

Nessan Quinnivan and Pearce McAnley, the IRA terrorists who escaped from Brixton Prison, were released from jail in the Irish Republic yesterday and immediately arrested on extradition warrants from Scotland Yard.

The two men, both 30, were among four IRA inmates released early from Portlaoise Prison as a reward for the ceasefire. Dublin District Court then remanded them in custody to the city's Mountjoy jail for one week. Quinnivan and McAnley had been awaiting trial on charges including plotting to murder the former Whitbread chairman Sir Charles Tidy when they produced a gun and escaped from Brixton in 1991.

Universities pledge

Four out of ten school-leavers would go on to higher education under a Labour government, David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, promised — but students might have to find part of the cost. Existing plans are for three out of ten to go to university or college by the end of the decade. However, ministers are reviewing demand for higher education, and may renew the current ban on expansion next year. Mr Blunkett also promised nursery school places for all three and four-year-olds wanting them.

GP reconsiders removal

A family doctor who planned to remove eight children from his patient list because their parents refused to have them immunised changed his mind yesterday. Dr John Goodall-Copestake, whose practice is in Presteigne, Powys, has been left £2,000 a year out of pocket because he cannot meet health service immunisation targets. He risked disciplinary action by the General Medical Council (GMC) for breaking rules on discriminating against patients on financial grounds.

ENO conductor quits

Sian Edwards, who in 1991 at the age of 32 became the first woman conductor to head a national opera company, announced yesterday that she would leave her post as music director of the English National Opera next month. Since she took up the appointment in August 1993, Edwards, who won the first Leeds Conductors' Competition, has conducted eight productions for the company, including the Olivier Award winner, *Rhosvannhwyd*, and Jonathan Miller's latest interpretation of *Carmen*.

Thief posed as scholar

A bookmaker who posed as a scholar to steal valuable illustrations from 18th-century natural history encyclopaedias kept at the British Library was jailed for four years. Melvin West, 39, of Epping, east London, gained access to copies of Johann Weidmann's *Phytanthos Iconographia* and to volumes donated in 1827 by Sir Joseph Banks, the botanist who accompanied Captain Cook. West admitted three counts of damaging property and three of theft at St Albans Crown Court.

Hare Krishna fined

The Hare Krishna movement was fined £30,000 and ordered to pay £7,184 costs at Luton Crown Court for flouting planning laws by allowing thousands of followers to celebrate Janmastami, a religious festival, in August, at Bhaktivedanta Manor, near Leckworth Heath, Watford. People in the village had complained about the pilgrimage made by Hindus from all over Britain to the manor, which only has permission to be used as a theological college for about 50 students.

Films get £200m boost

The Malaysian-based Millennium Group Limited has exercised its option to buy the 300-acre Leavesden Aerodrome site in Hertfordshire, where the new James Bond film *Goldeneye* was shot, for £42.75 million. Including further investment, the move is a £200 million boost for the British film industry that could create 3,000 jobs over three years and create the world's largest studio backlot. Rolls Royce left the site in 1993 and it was unused until it was leased last year for the James Bond film.

Suspended schoolboy Tory 'to start own party'

By A STAFF REPORTER

A SCHOOLBOY chosen to represent Tottenham Tories at last month's Conservative party conference has been suspended by his local association. Justin Hinchcliffe, 14, called Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, a "dictator" and said he would start his own political party.

The boy, who claimed to be "even more right wing than Margaret Thatcher", was bold enough to introduce himself to the Prime Minister at a conference reception. "John Major said I was a prophet," he reported proudly after their meeting.

Roger Smethurst, his local association chairman, announced last week that he was being suspended until he had finished his schooling because his studies at St Augustine's in Westminster were suffering. Justin said: "They said being a member of the Conservative Party was affecting my

education. That's totally untrue. The fact is they've suspended me because of my right-wing views."

"The dictator — I should say Dr Brian Mawhinney — was behind all this. He told Roger Smethurst to suspend me."

Justin, who is appealing against his suspension, went on: "Roger Smethurst should resign. He is a useless chairman. I would be willing to take on his job."

Justin added that his party would be called The Independent Conservatives, but have the same policies as the existing Tory party. He claimed he could get 20 to 30 members straight away among disillusioned Tories.

Justin's right-wing views include attacks on single mothers, even though his own mother, Susan, is a lone parent dependent on state benefits to raise him and his brother.

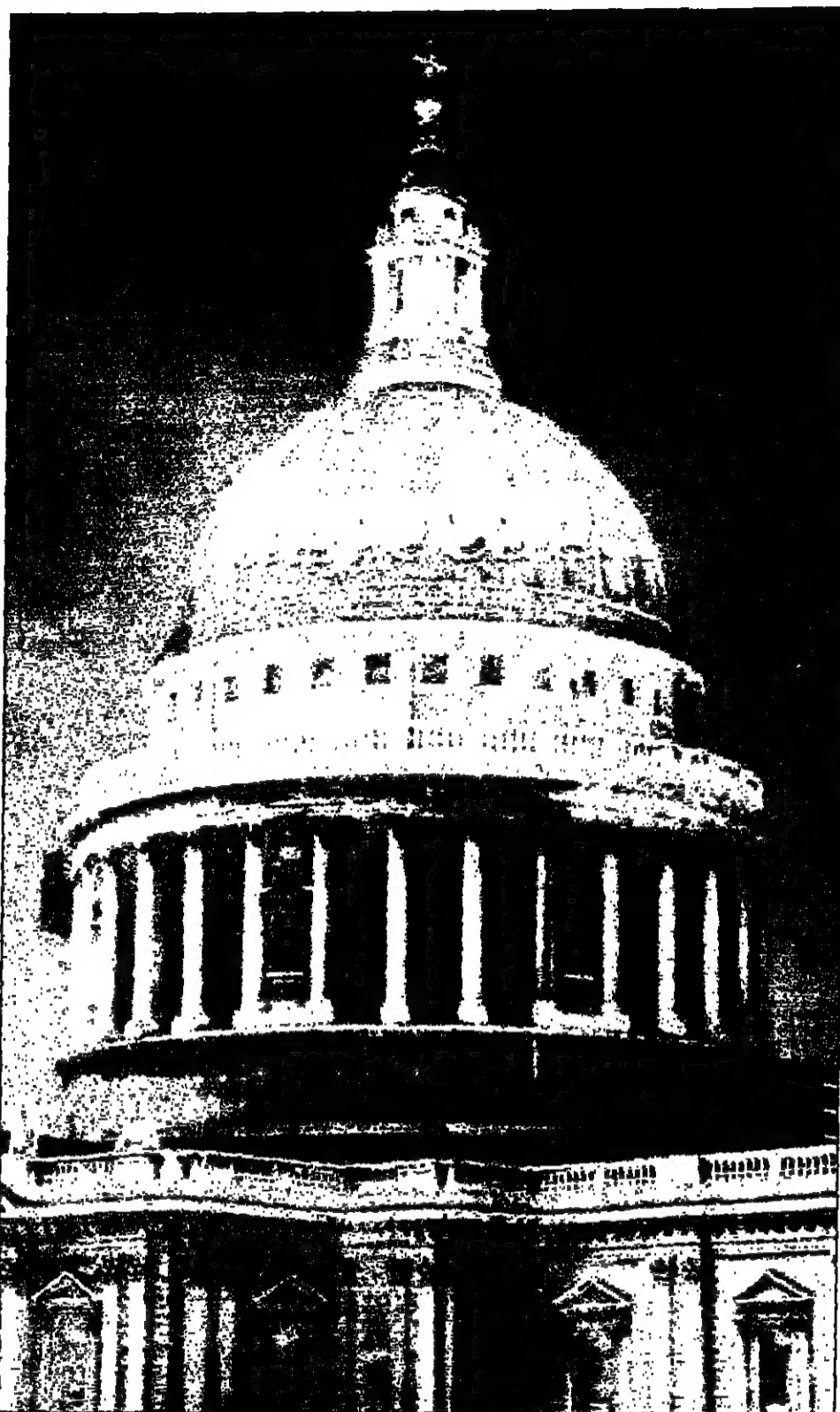
Justin, who lives with his mother and his half brother Christopher, 5, in a council flat in Tottenham, north London left two schools in Tottenham because he found them to be unsatisfactory, claiming that in one of them he was the only pupil in his class who spoke English.

His jobless mother receives £85 a week in benefit and has her £200-a-month rent paid for by the State.

He said: "A lot of people in this position spend their money on alcohol and cigarettes and then complain to the Government they haven't enough money. Other single mothers should shut up and manage as we do."



Hinchcliffe: appealing against his suspension



St Paul's Cathedral underwent a conversion of its own yesterday, into an advertising hoarding. In return for a donation to the fund for the restoration of the cathedral's Whispering Gallery, the cathedral authorities agreed to allow the dome to be used for the launch of a new Wispa chocolate bar by Cadbury

HMSO sues CD-Rom firm

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

HER Majesty's Stationery Office has launched an unprecedented legal action against one of the country's leading publishers in a wrangle over Crown copyright materials.

The HMSO, which has been accused in recent months of abusing its monopoly position over Crown copyright, is now locked in a battle with Butterworths over the publication of tax manuals produced by the Inland Revenue.

The tax manuals, which until last year were secret, are of crucial importance in that they provide guidance on tax policy and on how revenue inspectors interpret the law.

The HMSO has now issued writs against Compliance Ltd, the company which produces the tax manuals electronically on CD-Rom in a joint venture with Butterworths. HMSO is claiming a breach of copyright and seeking an injunction to restrict further publication.

The legal action comes in the wake of a decision last year by the Inland Revenue, in line with open-government policy, to bring the tax manuals into the public domain. It offered a contract to Tolley's, a publisher which specialises in tax books, which Tolley's and the Inland Revenue understood to be on an exclusive basis.

Butterworths argues it also has a right to publish the materials as it already has a licence with the HMSO to publish Crown copyright materials in paper form; and Compliance has a licence from HMSO to publish material in electronic form.

David Millett, a publishing director of Butterworths, said: "It is our belief that the licence that we and Compliance have to reproduce Crown copyright materials is valid and will be shown to be so."

British servicemen to receive Nato Medal

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

NATO is to award its first operational medal to British soldiers and other service personnel involved in the alliance's missions in the former Yugoslavia.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, formed 46 years ago, had never been engaged in a military operation until invited to provide support for the United Nations Protection Force (Unprofor) in the former Yugoslavia in 1992.

A recommendation from Nato headquarters in Brussels for a special medal to be awarded has been approved by all 16 member governments. The Queen has also given her approval for the medal to be worn.

The Nato Medal, with the

clasp "Former Yugoslavia", will be issued to all servicemen and women who complete 30 days' continuous or accumulated service in the Nato "theatre of operations".

However, troops from Britain and the other countries serving as United Nations peacekeepers in the former Yugoslavia are already eligible for the Unprofor Medal, and will not be able to apply for the Nato Medal if it is for the same period of service.

A party of British soldiers, sailors and airmen will fly to Brussels on November 27 for the first presentation ceremony of the new medal at Nato headquarters.

Bosnia plan, page 12

Abortion mix-up

Continued from page 1

Then I had to go to King's College Hospital in London for blood to be taken out of the cord. Four days later, I was told the baby was Down's and had a massive hole in the heart, and it was a girl. I couldn't believe it. I was gutted.

"I was 20 weeks when I had the operation and I held my baby. Russell was with me and we named her Amelia."

Ms Wood's solicitor, Owen Lloyd, said he would be seeking damages on her behalf. "Her situation is pretty wretched but it is nothing like as bad as for the other woman." He expected to be "in the thousands, not the tens of thousands". The other woman, who has not been identified, could qualify for more, depending on her age, whether it was her first child,

and whether she had been trying for a baby for a long time.

Addenbrooke's said that internal and external inquiries blamed human error, but was impossible to identify who was responsible because of the number of people working in the laboratory and the number of samples sent for testing. The independent inquiry into the mistake, which was discovered on September 4, found "there were no flaws in the laboratory's protocols that contributed to the error".

Professor Martin Bobrow, Clinical Director of Medical Genetics at Addenbrooke's, said: "We have offered an unqualified apology to these two families. My staff are devastated that such a mistake, which has never happened here before, could have occurred."

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Victims tied to tree with laces

Boy rapist preyed on schoolgirls after seeing porn film

By Mike Horsnell

A BOY of 14 who sexually attacked schoolgirls after watching a pornographic video was sentenced to seven years' detention yesterday.

The boy, who cannot be named, raped a 12-year-old girl and indecently assaulted her friend, also 12, after tying them to a tree with their shoelaces. He was wearing a balaclava and brandishing a knife when he attacked them as they pushed their bicycles home after a picnic.

He admitted the sex charges and kidnapping the girls on May 31. He also pleaded guilty to kidnapping and indecently assaulting two other girls in March and indecently assaulting an 11-year-old girl on May 30.

Balaclavas, knives, women's clothing and a pornographic video were found at his home after his arrest. The boy said he had planned the first double attack: "I got the idea from watching a video." Of the May 31 attack he said: "I knew what I was going to do. I planned it for about a month."

Michael Shorrocks, QC, for the prosecution, told Manchester Crown Court that the incidents happened at Waterworks Country Park in Old

ham. The most serious incident took place after two 12-year-old friends decided to have a picnic during their school holidays.

"They were confronted by the defendant. He was wearing a black balaclava pulled over his face. He produced a knife and threatened the girls. He made them go up a path to a secluded spot. He then forced both girls to undress, ripping off some of their clothing himself," Mr Shorrocks said.

The boy took their shoelaces and tied each by the wrist to a small tree. Then he indecently assaulted them and raped one. After the attacks the boy told them to wait 20 minutes. He took their clothing and told them where they would find it. "The girls managed to free themselves. They were seen, both naked and very distressed, by two passers-by."

The March attack involved two girls aged 12 and 11 who were playing. They saw a boy coming towards them and ran off towards a main road. "Before they could get there the boy caught up with them. By this time he had a balaclava covering his face," Mr Shorrocks said. "This boy took hold of both girls and pro-

duced a knife. He forced them to go with him off the path to a secluded spot."

When one of the girls started screaming the boy threatened her with his knife and said: "Do you want to die?" The attack ended when a woman rider passed by.

The boy was traced after the May 30 assault. He was identified by other children playing near where the attack took place. When arrested he told police: "I want a DNA test. That will prove I haven't done it."

Mr Justice Sachs told the boy yesterday: "You plainly have very serious problems. You are, in my view, extremely dangerous. It is a sick and sad world when young girls can't go out into the open air, into the countryside, because they are subjected by you to this awful experience."

The sentence was criticised by the father of the rape victim. "He should have got 15 years, and maybe life. If you are old enough to commit the crime, you are old enough to pay the full penalty," said the man, who cannot be named for legal reasons. He said of his daughter: "She was very upset but she is beginning to come through it now."

Jealous secretary 'hired men to slash rival's face'

By Kathryn Knight

A JEALOUS woman hired two hitmen to attack a female colleague she believed was a rival in love, a court was told yesterday. Teresa Dorne, 36, a chartered accountant, had her throat slashed and CS gas sprayed in her eyes.

One knife wound just missed her jugular vein. The other extended from her throat to one of her ears.

Diane Lewis, 24, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm at an earlier hearing. She had become mistakenly convinced that Mrs Dorne was involved with Ian French, her lover, who worked in the same office as the women, after seeing her smile at him. Snaresbrook Crown Court was told.

Raymond Johnson, 24, of Watworth, southeast London, one of the alleged hitmen, pleaded not guilty to one charge of conspiracy to commit grievous bodily harm with intent between October 31 last year and January 10 this year, and also denied an alternative count of grievous bodily harm.

Andrew Lloyd-Eley, for the prosecution, said Mrs Dorne joined the accountants Carter Backer and Winter, of Highgate, north London, in October last year. Miss Lewis was employed as a secretary.

"It seems Miss Lewis gained the impression that Mrs Dorne was involved with or had designs on Mr French," the jury was told.

Mrs Dorne received silent telephone calls to her house during the next few months. On January 9 this year she left work to walk to her car and noticed two men near by. As she got into her car, one sprayed what appeared to be CS gas, Mr Lloyd-Eley said. Mrs Dorne felt her face being pulled forward and then heard the men run away laughing. "Only when she stepped from the car did she realise her face hadn't been pulled, but a sharp bladed instrument was used to cut her."

Mr Johnson was later picked out in an identity parade by two schoolgirls who saw him near the location of the attack. On the night of the attack Mrs Dorne's husband received a telephone call at home from a man with a "jovial laughing attitude" who asked to speak to the victim. The call was later traced to Mr Johnson's mobile telephone.

Police found a partly discharged canister of CS gas at Mr Johnson's house. In an interview he exercised his right to silence. The case continues.

Student obsessed by colleague he killed

A SPANISH exchange student who became obsessed with a colleague as he struggled to make friends was jailed for life yesterday for murdering the 22-year-old woman.

Fernando Garrido, 26, bought two chef's knives in December last year and went to Margarita Zamorano's home in Canley, near Coventry, Birmingham Crown Court was told. When she opened the door he stabbed her 22 times, leaving one knife sticking from her side.

He left a note, covered in his blood, saying: "I had a great career in politics. Now it is all gone. She drove me mad. She deserved to die."

Both students were studying politics at Warwick University on a one-year exchange programme from their home university in Madrid. They came to know each other only after both won the scholarship to Warwick.

Garrido fled to Manchester after the attack and confessed to the murder to a priest. He made a full confession and admitted the murder in court yesterday.

Michael Kalisher, QC, for the defence, said: "He was attracted to this girl and had a sort of obsessive wish to have a relationship with her. She did not feel the same attraction to him."

Courage and humour of Paul Eddington recalled

By Emma Wilkins

THE son of Paul Eddington, the actor who died from skin cancer at the weekend, told yesterday how his father came home from hospital to die at home surrounded by his family. Hugo Eddington, 37, said the family was grateful that his father's legacy of television work, including *The Good Life* and *Yes, Minister*, would survive to be enjoyed for years to come.

Eddington, who was 68, returned to his home in Docklands, east London, from St Thomas's Hospital and died on Saturday. His wife, Patricia, who nursed him through the last months of his illness, was by his side. As tributes came from Baroness Thatcher and from the actors Nigel Hawthorne,



Eddington: video legacy

Richard Briers and Penelope Keith, Hugo Eddington said: "We are very grateful and glad that his legacy will remain on screen and on video." He added that his father had died "peacefully and with dignity and with members of the family in attendance. I was very glad to hold him and be with him at the last."

Eddington's condition may have been caused by the radiation he received as a treatment for back pains when he was about 32, his son said. "My father was taken to St Thomas's in a state of near collapse three weeks ago. He

rapidly developed pneumonia and, according to his wish and ours, we got him home to die. It was beyond hope."

Lady Thatcher said: "Paul Eddington was an essential part of that magnificent team of actors who brought Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn's superb scripts to life and who made *Yes, Minister* and *Yes, Prime Minister* such an enormous success."

Nigel Hawthorne, who played Sir Humphrey, the superior civil servant, to Eddington's bumbling Jim Hacker, said: "He was the bravest man I ever met; he never seemed to complain about his poor health and he had been ill for many years, but always bore it with dignity and humour."

Penelope Keith, who played his screen wife Margo in *The Good Life*, said: "I shall most remember his laughter — we laughed so much during *The Good Life*. When I think of Paul I shall remember his chuckle."

Richard Briers said: "I don't think I've known a more smashing bloke in all my years in showbusiness. He always dealt with his problems with humour and tenacity."

Thomas Stuttaford, page 16



Julia Somerville arriving for work at ITN's headquarters in London yesterday

Colleagues rally round couple in child photo case

By Andrew Pierce and Stewart Tandler

JULIA SOMERVILLE returned to work yesterday, telling colleagues at ITN that she would fight to clear her name after being arrested and questioned about 28 photographs of a naked child.

The laboratory technician at Boots who reported the photographs to the police was suspended from his duties yesterday after talking to the press. Sheldon Atkinson, 24, told *The Sun* that there were too many pictures of the girl. "I realised that the first few shots were of a child in the bath, and as I carried on through it dawned on me that every single picture showed the girl naked."

Miss Somerville, 48, and Jeremy Dixon, 56, her partner since June 1994, were questioned by the police for seven hours about the photographs last week. Mr Dixon, who took the pictures, is a keen amateur photographer and takes all the photographs for his award-winning Covent Garden architectural practice. The couple, who live in north London, were released on bail until next month.

Miss Somerville arrived for work shortly before 9am yesterday and presented the

buoyed by the support of everyone," an ITN spokeswoman said.

Edward Jones, Mr Dixon's partner in the architectural practice, said last night that Mr Dixon often carried his camera with him and would think nothing of shooting a whole roll of film on a single subject. "He does not mix his subjects, even if it's a subject which requires only four or five photos. There was a birthday cake which he photographed 28 times and he took two reels of sheep in a field."

"I cannot overstate the point that Jeremy has great integrity and moral standing and is a great family person."

Mr Dixon, who is a divorced father of three, had "a very well-adjusted social life". Boots confirmed last night that the procedure for alerting the police over suspicious photographs was used only rarely. Laboratory staff are issued with a strict set of policy guidelines. A spokeswoman said: "The policy states that if a film contains pictures of activity which staff suspect could be illegal the police are contacted and offered the opportunity to see the film."

"It is then up to the police to take any action which they consider appropriate. The procedure is implemented at our stores only rarely."

Nigella Lawson, page 17
Libby Purves, page 18

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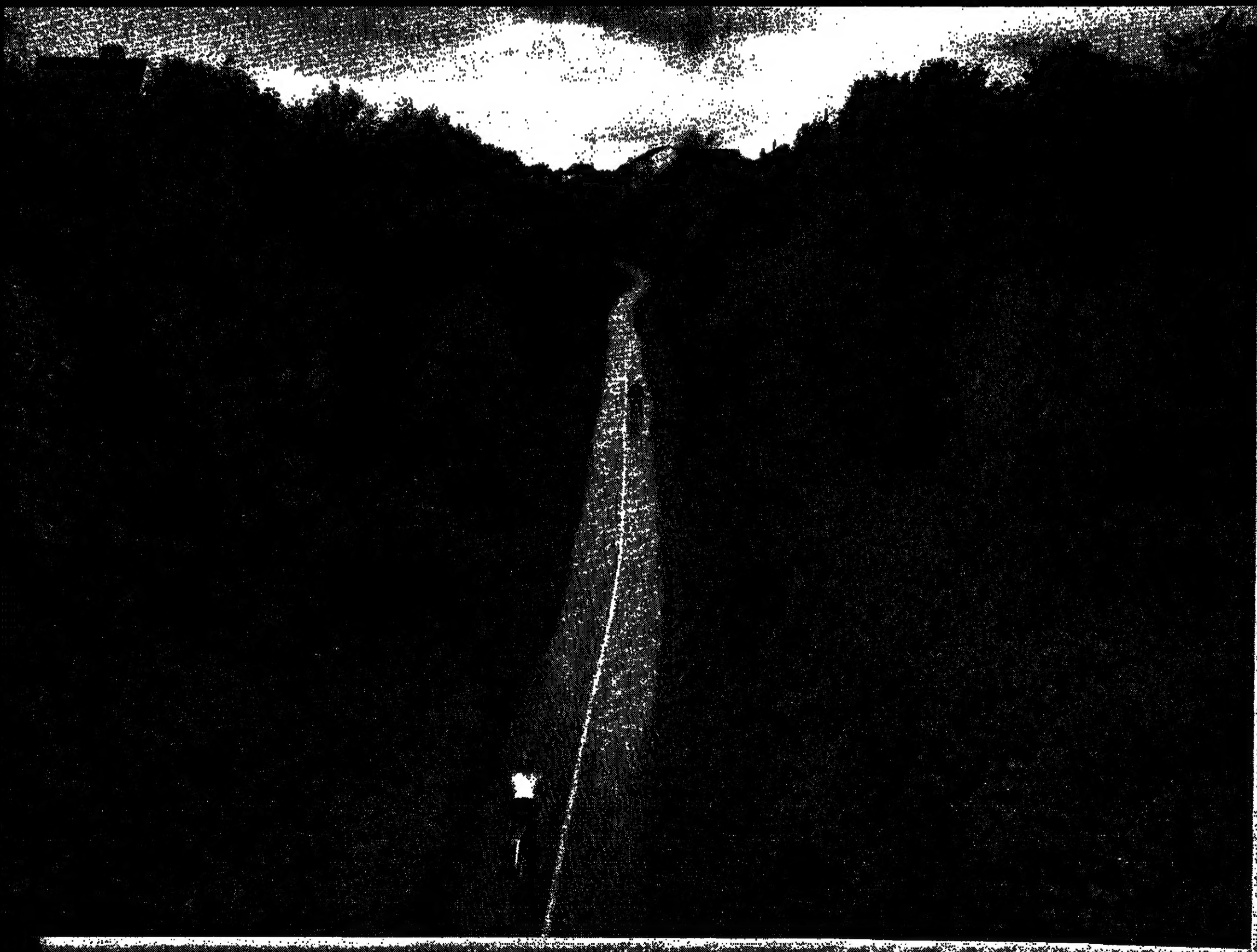
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He does not deserve sympathy, prosecution says of shotgun-wielding man who took on intruders

Vineyard owner accused of wounding burglars

By LIN JENKINS

A VINEYARD owner fired on two burglars with a shotgun as they tried to steal wine from his bonded warehouse, it was alleged yesterday. Jon Pritchett, who heads his local Neighbourhood Watch scheme, peppered Stephen Gilbert and Charles O'Hara with pellets, injuring one of them in the arm.

The jury at Maidstone Crown Court was told that it might feel sympathy for Jon Pritchett's efforts to protect himself and his property. But Simon Russell Flint, for the prosecution, said that he had used more than the reasonable force allowed by law.

Mr Pritchett, 60, has pleaded not guilty to two charges of unlawful wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm on December 1 last year. The warehouse had been broken into earlier, and Gilbert and O'Hara decided to try their luck after seeing the other burglars with their haul, Mr Russell Flint said.

Mr Pritchett and his wife were in bed when an alarm was triggered at about midnight by activity in the bonded warehouse 300 metres from



Jon Pritchett, left, was woken at midnight by an alarm ringing at his bonded warehouse. Stephen Gilbert was later put on probation for burglary



their house in St Mary's Plan, Kent. "The vineyard owner pulled on jeans and a jacket over his pyjamas, loaded two cartridges into his 12-bore double-barrelled shotgun and walked down towards the warehouse," Mr Russell Flint said.

"When he got there, he heard voices. He did not know where they were and lifted the gun to his shoulder and fired at the door." As he did so he shouted: "You bastards," Gilbert had been sitting by a hole in the warehouse roof, waiting for O'Hara to pass out bottles.

After Mr Pritchett fired, Gilbert fell to the ground and tried to run. "Mr Pritchett reloaded and again fired, in the direction of the retreating burglar," Mr Russell Flint said. Gilbert had more than 100 pellet wounds, which damaged a nerve in his left

arm, and spent four days in hospital. When O'Hara tried to get out of the warehouse he, too, was fired at and refused to come down until police arrived. Gilbert, 31, of Yalding, Kent, was later put on one year's probation and ordered to pay

£10 compensation by Tonbridge Magistrates' Court when he admitted burglary. He told the jury yesterday: "I have been unable to work since he shot me." Gilbert had previous convictions for burglary and violent offences. Asked by Brian

Leech, for the defence, if the incident had put him off burgling, he replied: "It shook me up, certainly."

In a taped police interview played to the jury, Mr Pritchett said: "All I wanted to do was frighten them." After he realised he had injured a man, he went to get help. "I started to cry, I could not stop myself." Asked why he reloaded to fire again, he said: "I was frightened myself."

He had not fired into the air as a warning because "I thought firing at the door was probably the best as it would do no harm, other than to my own property."

Mr Russell Flint told the jury: "There may be feelings of sympathy for Mr Pritchett's position. Such sympathy is misguided and unwarranted. Discharging a lethal weapon at both men to cause serious gun wounds and endanger their lives does not come within what the Crown would say was reasonable force. It was not just a starting pistol making a bang, or firing up in the air or into the ground. This was not just a slight peppering, but not insubstantial injuries."

The trial continues.

ON SATURDAY



In 1963 The Times music critic likened the Beatles to Mahler. The rest was history.

Britain's most influential band reviewed and reunited — plus your chance to own three platinum Beatles discs — in a collector's issue of the MAGAZINE

Gun that killed poacher 'went off accidentally'

By PAUL WILKINSON

A FARMER who caught a poacher on his land said that his 12-bore shotgun went off accidentally during the late-night confrontation in which the poacher was killed.

The shot blew away half the head of Thomas Vout, 37, a known poacher who was out looking for rabbits, killing him instantly, Teesside Crown Court was told yesterday.

Douglas Bailes, who was concerned that the intruders' dogs would worry his pregnant ewes, denies manslaughter. After the incident last January on Mr Bailes's 600-acre farm near Trindon, Co Durham, the farmer told a series of different stories to police, the court was told.

First he said he had been using a different gun with a faulty firing mechanism. He suggested it had gone off as he struggled with Mr Vout after the poacher tried to punch him. Finally he admitted that the weapon had discharged when he tried to club Mr Vout with the barrels as he fled through a hedge.

James Goss, for the prosecution, said: "We do not allege that Mr Bailes deliberately shot Vout intending to kill. On his own admission the defendant admitted striking a deliberate blow to stop Mr Vout getting away. That was an unlawful act."

"A forensic scientist will say that Vout could not have been standing upright when he was shot. We allege it was an unlawful killing by gross negligence in wielding a loaded shotgun in such a way that the barrels were brought into

close proximity with the head of a man seeking to get away in darkness. Even if he did not intend the gun to go off, this was such a grossly negligent act as regards the safety of Mr Vout that the Crown submit this was manslaughter."

Mr Bailes, 31, went after the poacher with John Crozier, a friend and fellow farmer, after they spotted lights in one of his meadows at about 10.20 in the evening. They trapped him in the corner of the field and the shooting happened soon after.

Mr Bailes then hid the shotgun in a chicken shed before returning to the farmhouse where he lives with his wife and son. He called his father, saying the gun had gone off accidentally when Mr Vout grabbed the barrel. He then telephoned police, saying there had been an accident.

Mr Goss said Mr Vout, unemployed, who lived with his wife and two sons aged 10 and 12 in the nearby village of Murton, regularly went out at night with his lurcher dog and a torch, hoping to catch rabbits or hares, a practice known locally as lamping. On the night of his death he had gone with a friend. Both men were unarmed.

Jane Bailes, the farmer's wife, said that her husband saw the poachers when he put their puppy out into its kennel. He went out immediately, taking his shotgun. She told the jury: "He returned to the farmhouse after about 15 minutes white with shock and in a panic. He said there had been a bad, bad accident."

The trial continues today.

Rushdie odds on for Booker Prize

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SALMAN RUSHDIE is the "hottest ever favourite" to win the Booker Prize, according to Ladbrokes, which closed its betting yesterday ahead of tonight's announcement of the winner.

The Moor's Last Sigh is 4/7 with the bookmaker which, reading between the lines of the published reviews, placed Pat Barker's *The Ghost Road* (7/2) in second place, dismissing the three other novelists, Justin Cartwright, Barry Unsworth (both 6/1) and Tim Winton. (4/1). A Ladbrokes spokesman said: "We couldn't manage to take one single bet for Tim Winton."

Martyn Goff, administrator of the Booker Prize, said: "I nearly always had a good idea about the winner. But this year, I really haven't." The publishing world expects the competition to be between Rushdie, Barker and Un-

worth, who won in 1992 and who is on this year's list for *Mortality Play*. The other two contenders are Cartwright's *In Every Face I Meet* and Winton's *The Riders*.


The judges meet at 4pm in the 27th-floor boardroom of Booker's offices in Victoria, central London. Mr Goff said that the meeting was late because they wanted to shorten the period in which news could leak out before the 9pm announcement.

Sales of the shortlisted novels have been helped by the strapping of the price-fixing Net Book Agreement. A spokesman for Waterstone's, the high street booksellers, said that the Rushdie, which they are discounting from £15.99 to £11.99, has been selling "really well, outselling all the other contenders". The only other one selling was *The Ghost Road*. Rushdie is in Waterstone's bestseller list in third place, behind Delia Smith and Robert Harris.

Dillon has found that sales are only "slightly better" since it offered a £2 discount on each of the five shortlisted novels.

A spokesman said, however: "Although the price hasn't increased sales dramatically, people are buying two rather than one."

Leading article, page 19



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Fishing fleet must be halved to save stocks, says scientist

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A LEADING fisheries scientist said yesterday that there would be no cod and haddock left in waters round Britain by the turn of the century if European governments did not take action to conserve dwindling stocks.

Michael Holden, who worked for nearly 40 years for the Ministry of Agriculture and the European Commission in Brussels, called for the size of European fishing fleets to be cut by half.

"Halving the size of fleets will put fishermen out of work," he said at a dinner in London last night at which he received the British Academy of Gastronomes' grand prix for 1995. "But if something is not done stocks will run out and fishermen will be made bankrupt anyway."

Egon Ronay, president of the academy, said: "We are facing a catastrophe. One of our most precious culinary raw materials may have been completely destroyed within five years. European governments must act now. As they have paid farmers to 'set aside' some of their land, they must now pay the necessary proportion of fishermen to leave the industry."

The Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday that 164 British skippers have accepted about £70,000 each this year to scrap their boats. This will reduce

the fishing fleet's capacity by 25 per cent and is part of a long-term £53 million decommissioning scheme.

This brings the number of boats taken out of service during the past three years to 461, a reduction of 7.9 per cent in the size of the fleet. The changes still leave Britain well short of the 17 per cent cutback which it is required to meet by the end of next year under European Union guidelines. Many other member states, including Spain, have already met their targets.

Meanwhile, the Government is investigating the case of a trawler whose Spanish owners have escaped paying fines and costs totalling £336,000 imposed earlier this year for illegal fishing. Last March magistrates in Plymouth fined the *Blenheim*, one of about 100 Spanish-owned trawlers registered in Britain, £311,000 for more than 20 offences, which included catching fish to which it was not entitled.

The magistrates ruled that the *Blenheim* should be detained in Falmouth, Cornwall, until the fine was paid. But in July the High Court ordered the vessel's release after a Spanish bank, the Banco Hispano Americano, claimed the boat was mortgaged to it. The *Blenheim* is now berthed in the Spanish port of Vigo.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture said: "The company that owned the boat went bankrupt and the vessel had to be released to allow the priority creditor to foreclose on the mortgage. However, any proceeds from the sale of the boat left after the repayment of the mortgage will remain frozen."

David Harris, MP for St Ives, and chairman of the Conservatives' fisheries committee, said: "I have suggested that in future a condition should be attached to licences for fishing in our waters which would make clear that the payment of any fines must take precedence over all other claims."



Ronay: called for compensation payment



Yelana Pankova, the Kirov Ballet star who will be dancing Odette in the forthcoming national tour of Ballet Classique d'Europe's production of *Swan Lake*, giving an inspiring hand at the lake in Battersea Park, London, yesterday to young pupils of the Strand Dance School

Officer failed breath test after colleague's report

By TIM JONES

A SENIOR policeman investigating a complaint against a woman officer was arrested in his home after she reported him for drink-driving, a court was told yesterday.

WPC Elaine Buckle noticed that Superintendent Dennis Luty smelt strongly of drink and his eyes appeared to be glazed when he interviewed her at a Southampton police station about a complaint made against her. Aldershot magistrates were told.

Lawrence Henderson, for the prosecution, said that after the interview WPC Buckle made a note of Mr Luty's car registration and alerted the police control room. Mr Luty was followed home by Ian Readhead, now Hampshire's

assistant chief constable, and acting Inspector James Hazlett.

Mr Luty, 55, a former member of the force complaints and discipline department, refused to take a breath test. A test taken at the police station showed he had more than twice the legal limit of alcohol. Mr Henderson said Mr Luty, from Bassett, Southampton, at first denied he had been drinking, saying he was a diabetic.

WPC Buckle said: "Mr Luty was investigating a complaint which was made against me. I could smell what I thought was alcohol although initially I didn't wish to believe that it could be. At the end of our meeting his eyes appeared to be glazed. It was quite strong, the alcohol, because I was

face to face with him."

Mr Readhead said that when Mr Luty answered his door he said: "I haven't had a drink. I am a diabetic. I realise you had to do this but I don't understand why this WPC is making this allegation. She has always been difficult." Mr Luty, the court was told, said: "This is a malicious complaint against me as an investigating officer."

Mr Luty, who denies the charge, admitted drinking a pint of shandy at his home before meeting WPC Buckle. He said he started to feel unwell because of his diabetes, which forced him to retire after 29 years in the force, and decided to go home where he started to drink.

The case continues.

PCs who missed body are sacked

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

TWO constables who failed to notice the dead driver when they stuck a "Police Aware" sticker on an overturned car have been sacked.

The body of Sally London, 39, remained in her car for more than 24 hours while her family launched a search. She was not found until a road sweeper saw her arm sticking from the Ford Capri in a cornfield close to the M1 near Ridgmont, Bedfordshire.

PC Robert McGhee and PC Shaun Timmons were required to resign yesterday by Alan Dyer, their Chief Constable, when they were found guilty of neglect of duty after a day-long hearing. The officers may appeal to the Home Secretary, Mrs London, a

solicitors' receptionist, had crashed on the evening of May 16. The constables arrived at the scene the next morning and thought the driver had gone home.

The following morning her estranged husband Les, who had spent the previous day searching for his wife, woke to find a note from the police pushed through his front door, asking him to remove the car from the field.

An inquest recorded a verdict of accidental death. The coroner said he was satisfied that she had been dead by the time the officers arrived at the car. He said they had been under the "honest but mistaken" belief that the car was empty.

Notes on dead baby altered by nurse

By PAUL WILKINSON

A CASUALTY nurse who told the parents of a sick baby he probably had "a sniffle" and that they should take him to their family doctor altered the case notes after the child died less than an hour later.

Yesterday, the parents of 11-month-old Ryan Smith demanded that the staff nurse, Maureen Thompson, should be sacked from Berwick Infirmary at Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland. Gordon Smith, 27, said: "That nurse should never be allowed back into that hospital or any other. She made one fatal mistake, why should she be allowed to make another?"

An independent inquiry into Ryan's death last month found the nurse's action probably had no bearing on the outcome as he was suffering from a fatal heart condition. However, it concluded that she did not check the baby's temperature, pulse or breathing before telling his parents there were no doctors on duty and they should take the child to their GP. He died within minutes of arrival.

Staff Nurse Thompson, who has 18 years' experience, is suspended and faces internal disciplinary proceedings that could result in her dismissal.

Julie Goulding, chief executive of the Cheviot and Wansbeck NHS Trust, said she could not understand why the notes had been altered. "The emphasis of words were changed. They were not major, fundamental changes, but it is beyond belief that someone with so many years of professional experience and held in such high regard should do such a thing."

Copies of the notes given to Mr Smith, a painter and decorator, and his wife Angela, 27, from Tweedmouth, show that the wording of Ryan's description had been altered from "extremely pale" to "quite pale." A pulse reading was inserted. Mrs Smith said: "It is now accepted by everyone, including her, that she never took a pulse. I am furious that she has tried to cover up what has happened by changing the records days after Ryan died."

Mrs Thompson declined to comment at her home in Berwick last night.

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abacus, n.
Apparatus for counting how much you could save

able, adj.
Competent and skilled service engineers

accessible, adj.
Terms and conditions that are easy to understand
accomplish, vb.
Achieving unrivalled service response times

accountable, adj.
Fully responsible to our customers

accurate, adj.
High quality copies from reliable machines

acopy, n.

New name in copiers
adjustable, adj.
The flexibility to change copiers without penalty

admiration, n.
What our rivals have for our products and services

advanced, adj.
Multi-functional copiers that use the latest digital technology

afford, vb.
The ability to purchase with confidence

agreement, n.
Our guarantee that we will deliver the services we promise

ahead, adj.
Creating innovative copier solutions that keep us in front

alternative, n.
Special 90 day contracts to give you more choice

attitude, n.
Our philosophy of putting the customer first

attractive, adj.
Creating original packages through our own Group finance

authority, n.
Giving expert advice at all times

automatic, n.
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award, vb.
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aware, adj.
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Notes on dead baby altered by nurse

By Paul Wilkinson

A CASUALTY nurse who sat the parents of a sick baby in a hospital bed, and who was later found to have altered the notes of the child's death, has been charged with manslaughter.

The parents of the baby, who died in hospital last month, have been told that the nurse, who was found to have altered the notes of the child's death, has been charged with manslaughter.

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Father calls on medical researchers to admit CJD link

Family attacks scientists over hormone treatment death

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE family of a man who died of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease after receiving experimental injections to make him grow attacked the Medical Research Council, which oversees government-funded research, yesterday for refusing to accept blame for his death.

The inquest into Bahrām Khan, a 27-year-old graduate, was told that the council continued to deny that human growth hormone treatment was responsible for 16 deaths from Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease (CJD) out of fewer than 2,000 patients who received the therapy.

Dr James Ironside, of the national CJD surveillance unit, told the inquest that the disease typically occurred only once in a million people per year. Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster Coroner, said: "When there are only one or two thousand people who even received the growth hormone, you wouldn't expect very many—if any at all—in the course of a year to have CJD... This is an enormous increase that requires some form of explanation."

He said it seemed quite clear to Dr Ironside that there was an



Parveen and Ashraf Khan yesterday: "How many more young men have to die before the scientists admit neglect?"

association between CJD and the people given human growth hormone and that it was likely that the product they were given was contaminated. His verdict of misadventure was one that Mr Khan's family and solicitor had been hoping for.

Mr Khan, before losing his speech as the illness wasted his muscles and robbed him of the ability to eat or move, told his parents: "Get the bastard who did this to us."

He had been given human

growth hormone, extracted from pituitary glands removed from corpses after post-mortem examinations, from 1977 to 1985. He was unusually small as a child and was predicted to grow to only 4ft 9in. He reached 5ft 1in when human growth hormone treatment was withdrawn in 1985 because of fears of a link with CJD.

He was offered synthetic hormone a year later but declined. His father Ashraf, 57, a retired postal worker, told the inquest: "He wrote

back and said he does not want to be used as a guinea pig."

David Body, the solicitor representing the families of people treated with human growth hormone at a court case next April, told the coroner that the Medical Research Council denied the relationship between its treatment and CJD. The Department of Health, which the families are also suing, has conceded causation. The Medical Research Council said last night that the matter was *sub judice* but that it was neither denying nor accepting causation.

After the verdict, Ashraf Khan, from Harlesden, northwest London, said: "We are so angry. How many more young men have to die before the scientists admit neglect?"

When his son, a sales executive, went home to his parents in November last year, he was walking like a drunkard because of his illness. His mother Parveen, 52, a retired nursery officer, who cared for him at home before he was admitted to a hospice in April, said: "Within days he went from walking to crutches, from crutches to wheelchair, then from wheelchair to just crippled."



Bahrām Khan died from Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease aged 27 after experimental injections of human growth hormone

Pakistani chauffeur accuses GMB of race bias

By LEILA LINTON

THE Pakistan-born former chauffeur of John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB union, claimed at an industrial tribunal yesterday that he suffered racial discrimination.

Tahir Raff Janjua, 38, of Norbury, south London, worked as Mr Edmonds's chauffeur from February 1993 to March 1994, the hearing in Croydon was told. He was the only black or Asian at the union head office, which employs 90 people. Edna Davis, Mr Edmonds's secretary, was rude to him, Mr Janjua said. "I got the impression that she treated me like a servant."

Mr Janjua also alleged that Ms Davis told him that Indians and Pakistanis were ignorant troublemakers. He added: "Whenever I walked into her office, she would immediately start sniffing loudly, suggesting that there was some strange smell associated with my entrance. This suggests a stereotypical and prejudiced view of black people and their body odour, which associates Asians with the smell of curry."

The father of three said Ms Davis asked him if his wife was English. "I told her that she too was of Pakistani origin and came to this country at the age of three. She expressed surprise at my wife's spoken English, adding that she didn't expect Indian and Pakistani people to speak like English people."

In October 1993, Ms Davis initiated disciplinary proceedings against Mr Janjua for being late and not reporting to her. She also said he was rude to her. Mr Edmonds issued a warning to his chauffeur.

According to Mr Edmonds, Mr Janjua then made allegations against Ms Davis of racial harassment, which he later withdrew. Mr Janjua told the tribunal of a meeting with Mr Edmonds.

The general secretary interrogated me about the route and the time of leaving home

for the office several times. He said: "Explain this and that." He also suggested that I might not like women bosses, implying that I was a kind of male chauvinist.

Mr Janjua said Mr Edmonds admonished him for not opening a car door quickly enough for him and not running around quickly enough to open the door on the other side of the car for Ms Davis. In March 1994, Mr Janjua was dismissed. Unauthorised overtime claims and a rude and offensive manner towards Ms Davis were cited. He lost an internal appeal. The union denies the allegations. The hearing continues.

Paris kirk members fight plan to sell site

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE Church of Scotland's only kirk in France is under threat because of lack of funds for essential maintenance. The 50-strong congregation which meets in a 40-year-old building just off the Champs Elysees have until spring to raise over £150,000.

The church hierarchy in Scotland wants to sell the site for development, raising about £600,000. It is asking the congregation to consider linking with the congregation of the French Reform Church.

The move is being resisted by some members, who say they are not prepared to give up their independence. They say they are not prepared to give up their independence. They say they are not prepared to give up their independence.

The Rev William Reid, minister at the Paris Kirk, said there is a firm decision to do all we can to persuade the Church of Scotland Trust that this decision would be wrong.

But yesterday Dr Chris Wrigglesworth, general secretary of the Church of Scotland's Department of World Mission, said that even if the repair bill were met, running costs have still to be found.

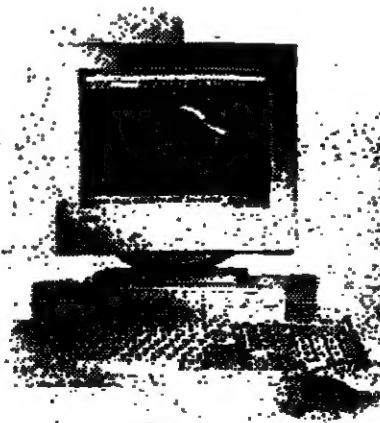
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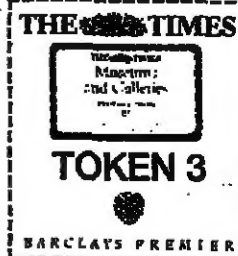
The free guide gives brief descriptions of each museum and gallery, including the National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh (above), permanent exhibitions, the concessions available and some future programmes. More programming details and concessions will appear in a regular special events column each Saturday in the Weekend section, starting November 18.

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Pakistani chauffeur accuses GMB of race bias

BY LISA LIVING

... Pakistani-born James ... of the GMB ... race bias ...

'It is the Tories who really run town halls — but we can give power back to the people'

Walsall presents the brave new face of local government

BY IAN MURRAY

WALSALL council appointed a corporate board of professional directors yesterday to run its £200 million budget, replacing the traditional set-up of chief officers.

The aim of the changes, which led to the local Labour Party's suspension by Tony Blair, is to restructure local government to return power to the people. The Conservatives have labelled the borough "the loony Left people's republic".

Dave Church, the Labour leader, said yesterday that the council had already saved £650,000 as he presented the five "top class people" who will take over management of services, replacing nine chief officers.

"We are paying each of them around £10,000 more than the individuals they are replacing but, because there are fewer of them, we will save £175,000 a year," voluntary redundancies brought the total saving to £650,000. "We are saving money at the top so we can spend it on those who need it most," he said.

The five directors, who will be paid a minimum of £55,000 a year, were all recruited locally even though 700 people



Church: announced new appointments yesterday

answered the council's £30,000 national advertising campaign for a "dream team" to change the face of local government.

The most controversial appointment is that of Tim Howard as education director. Mr Howard, the current recreation services manager and a member of the Labour Party, spent his career in education until two years ago when the ruling Tory group moved him. "He has never been a party activist," Mr Church said.

The other four directors are Joanne Tyzzer, housing and social services, Sheila Healy,

environment, Geoffrey Porter-Williams, resources, and Nigel Christie, contracts.

Mrs Tyzzer has been acting director of housing services and Mr Porter-Williams has been director of financial services for the past 17 years. Mrs Healy is currently chief executive of Walsall City Challenge.

Mr Christie is the only one not to have been working in the borough but he has been assistant director of council services in neighbouring Wolverhampton. Mr Church said the new board would work together rather than divide its responsibilities as before.

"The public has told us they are fed up with finding one department playing off against another. These people will be collectively responsible for providing a council service and will not pass the buck," he said.

"We are talking about a change in structure which will allow the people their say. Walsall is miles behind the times in this and we have got to catch up and get closer to our citizens."

"Although Labour controls most councils, it is really the Tories who run local government through Parliament. By changing the structure we can



The Walsall five: from left, Tim Howard, Joanne Tyzzer, Geoffrey Porter-Williams, Sheila Healy, and Nigel Christie, who have been appointed as the council's corporate board directors. Each will be paid £55,000 a year

give power back to the people," he added.

The new board will be responsible for implementing the Labour group's manifesto pledge on which it was elected last May.

Advised by elected groups of residents, they will decentralise the town hall and set up 54 neighbourhood offices to supply services at the point of

need. "The people of Walsall chose us to do that and only the people of Walsall will stop us," Mr Church said. "Until they vote against the idea that is what we will do whatever anyone says."

The programme was branded as "loony left" by Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, in the summer, as the Tories attacked

Labour's record in local government. John Prescott, deputy leader of the Labour Party, later visited the local party to discuss its suspension and his findings will be reported to the National Executive Committee on November 23.

Mr Church said that the council policy was now being backed by all the blue-collar unions although there was an

unresolved dispute with Unison. Mr Church said there was to be no timetable for bringing in the new structures. "We have employed these people as experts to do the job for us and it is up to them to implement things." The average citizen would see no noticeable difference to begin with in the way the council operated.

Farmer must pay for mess

The farmer who sprayed a NatWest branch in Newcastle upon Tyne with manure was convicted of criminal damage yesterday but was given a conditional discharge by city magistrates, who ordered him to pay £2,000 compensation. David Cannon, 66, of Ponteland, had had a five-year battle with the bank over its alleged mismanagement.

Publisher's bill

HarperCollins paid undisclosed libel damages to Sergeant Malcolm Fowler and PC Alan Sumner for the second time after repeating criticism of their conduct in the softback edition of *Botham: My Autobiography*, by Ian Botham.

Miner killed

A miner died from head injuries after being hit by a high-tension cable at Kellingly Colliery, Knottingley, West Yorkshire. David Allott, 34, of Barnsley, had been salvaging equipment at the pit owned by RJB mining.

Deflating lapse

A motorist was hit on the leg by a thief who stole his car as he put air in the tyres. The car's owner left the keys in the ignition at the garage in Gateshead and the thief pulled up and leapt into the H-reg Toyota Carina.

Viaduct saved

The 1846 railway viaduct over the River Derwent at Stamford Bridge — out of use for 30 years — is to be saved from demolition. East Yorkshire Borough Council and English Heritage have agreed a £475,000 restoration plan.

Rum business

Donkeys suffering from alcoholism after pub patrons gave them drinks are being treated at sanctuaries in Devon, Dorset and Derbyshire. Some have been fed diminishing amounts of Guinness and crisps as part of the process.

'Human factor' counts in evictions

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE "human factor" must be taken into account when councils consider using planning laws to evict gypsies or travellers from unauthorised campsites, the High Court ruled yesterday.

A judge rejected a Cornish council's claim that its only concern in such cases should be "the use of land" and that it did not have to consider the personal circumstances of those facing eviction in enforcement proceedings. The decision comes in the wake of a landmark High Court ruling in August. That gave gypsies and travellers protection against unfairly harsh treatment under the 1994 Criminal Justice Act, which introduced tough anti-trespass measures.

In that case Mr Justice Sedley said "considerations of common humanity" required councils to make proper inquiries about the health, housing needs and welfare of travellers before approving evictions.

Mr Justice Latham said yesterday that similar considerations applied in enforcement actions for planning reasons.

The legal clarification, however, was of no help to the three women who brought the case. Catherine Uzell, Clare Blyth, 25, and Rebecca Sims, 23, and their families are unlawfully occupying a roadside site owned by Cornwall County Council at Ponsanooth, near Penryn.

They wanted the High Court to quash a decision

taken in June by Kerrier District Council, which forced the county council to start proceedings against them and about 20 other travellers for possession of the site.

The women argued that Kerrier officials had not made sufficient inquiries to enable the council to consider the effect on the travellers' personal circumstances. The judge ruled, however, that Kerrier had taken into account their personal circumstances as required by law.

Car sales increase 11.5%

BY KEVIN EASON

A RUSH of new models boosted new car sales last month, when registrations were 11.5 per cent up on 1994.

Motor industry executives welcomed the increase after months in the doldrums but warned against interpreting the improvement as the start of an upward trend.

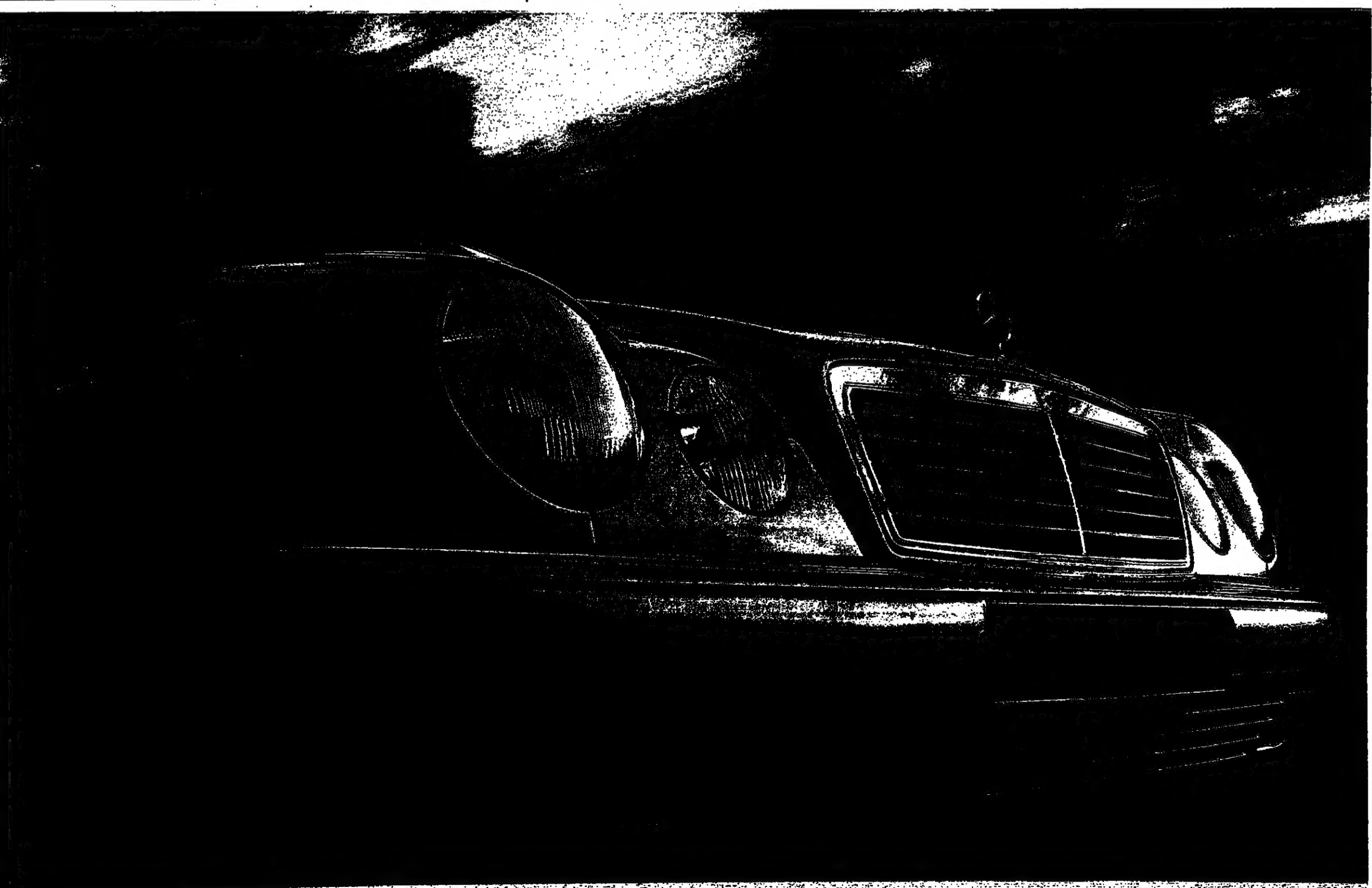
Manufacturers spent millions of pounds on promotions this autumn and the London Motor Show brought

the industry some much needed attention as new models from Rover, Vauxhall and Nissan found their way into the showrooms.

October sales reached 136,605, compared with 122,526 in the same month last year, according to figures published yesterday by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. Total sales in the first ten months of the year were 1.73 million, a 1.16 per cent increase over the 1.71 million recorded in the January to October period of 1994.

The industry is still finding the private buyer elusive, with sales to company fleets providing the cornerstone of the year's business.

The ten best-selling cars in October were: 1. Ford Escort (8,861); 2. Vauxhall Astra (7,910); 3. Ford Mondeo (7,398); 4. Ford Fiesta (7,308); 5. Rover 400 (5,238); 6. Vauxhall Cavalier (4,705); 7. Vauxhall Corsa (4,705); 8. Rover 200 (4,700); 9. Rover 100 (4,637); 10. Renault Clio (4,131).



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TOKEN

'Why does the public have a right to know about financial reward for private activities?'

Heath condemns 'doctrine of envy and hatred'

By Alice Thomson, James Landale and Arthur Leathley

THE former prime minister Sir Edward Heath accused Labour of pushing a "doctrine of envy and hatred" when he addressed the Commons yesterday in the debate on the Nolan committee's recommendations.

He said that the public had a right to know about MPs' parliamentary salaries, but MPs had a right to privacy. "Why does the public have a right to know about financial reward for our individual private activities?"

Sir Edward said that Labour could find no evidence to support the publication of financial information. "They don't want to fight the election on policies. They want to fight it on envy and greed. This House has always been known as an honourable House, and members as honourable members - and that is the way we should behave in future."

He denounced the decision to rush through new rules on MPs' financial interests. MPs should have given far greater consideration to such complex and controversial measures. "The whole of this affair has been appallingly handled," he said. "This is no way to conduct the business of the House."

His wide range of outside business interests would not be affected by the disclosure, in favour of which the House voted yesterday, as they were not a result of his work as an MP. He said that the Nolan proposal to disclose incomes in bands of £5,000 was "a nonsense", insisting that the amount of money earned did not indicate the degree of influence an outside body could exert on an MP. A backbencher relying only on his MP's salary might find £1,000 a significant additional income, but £20,000 would "mean nothing" to a barrister earning £500,000.

He was among many backbench Tories to voice

DEBATE

opposition to Labour's call for full disclosure of their outside earnings. There was also surprising opposition to a motion put forward by Tony Newton, the Leader of the House, implementing further proposals from the Select Committee on Standards in Public Life, banning paid advocacy.

MPs said that the motion was badly drafted and it was difficult to distinguish between MPs giving advice to outside consultants and formally advocating their interests in the House.

Others were concerned that tougher rules of disclosure would discourage talented

Our constituents have a right to know

people from becoming MPs and encourage many "excellent" sitting MPs to resign.

Opening the debate, Mr Newton urged MPs to mark the select committee's recommendations and reject the Labour amendment. He hailed the reforms before the House as the "most significant strengthening of our rules for decades" and said it represented "a carefully thought-out and comprehensive package".

Mr Newton emphasised that the proposal to ban paid advocacy went significantly further than the curbs proposed by Lord Nolan. But Tory MPs continually interrupted to complain that the new regulations would inhibit their ability to speak up on issues.

They were backed by Tony Banks (Lab, Newham NW),

who said he was also concerned because he received help from the International Fund for Animal Welfare in employing an additional member of staff. He asked Mr Newton whether he would now be prevented from initiating debates and asking questions, putting down Bills or early day motions.

Mr Newton told him: "If you are receiving payment or a benefit of kind such as the payment for a research assistant, the answer would be yes." He said the ban on paid advocacy was a major extension to the House's rules.

"The key to our approach is that Members should not be paid to initiate parliamentary proceedings or to initiate them on behalf of clients to whom they are paid advisers. In other words they should not advocate in Parliament the cause of outside interests from which they receive remuneration."

Mr Newton said that it was regrettable that the select committee has divided along party lines over the issue of disclosure and said it was pointless anyway to discuss disclosure if the activity itself was to be banned. "On this as in every other matter, it is for the judgment of Members to decide. But taken together the select committee's two reports constitute the most significant strengthening of our rules for decades. Our proposals are designed to balance the overriding duty of Members to serve their constituents without any undue hindrance, with the necessary safeguards that our freedoms in this House should not be abused."

Ann Taylor, Shadow Leader of the House, told MPs that the motion banning advocacy went further than existing resolutions because it gives examples of what MPs cannot do. However, she warned them that the list was "disruptive" and not "exhaustive". "It would be very difficult to define every example of what an MP can or cannot do."

On disclosure, Ms Taylor made clear that MPs would only have to declare remuneration contracts that related to their position in parliament as an MP. "These agreements are relevant to our parliamentary activity," she said. "I think they should be registered but I think it should go further and make sure that they are subject to full disclosure. These agreements are only relevant to our membership of this House. Therefore they should be public and therefore our constituents have a right to know."

She said it was important to know whether an MP received £1,000 or £20,000 for a consultancy because it would indicate how difficult he or she would find it to argue against a measure supported by that consultancy. "The best way to protect the good name of Parliament, the best way to start to rebuild public confidence in Parliament, is to vote for my amendments [on full disclosure]."

She dismissed fears about MPs' tax returns having to be disclosed, if the House backed full disclosure of outside earnings, as "hysteria". She said: "The scares about income tax returns are nothing more than smokescreens and a diversion from the main issue. When the Prime Minister intervened last week, when he said that members are entitled to the same tax privacy as others, all we can say is 'yes, we agree', but that is not relevant to the debate this evening. There is far more chance of a real campaign to make the tax returns of MPs public if we defeat this amendment tonight."

She added: "There are MPs on both sides of the House who resent the fact that all MPs are getting a bad name because of the activities of a few."

Torn King, MP for Bridgwater and a member of the original Nolan committee, said he would support Mr Newton's motion preventing paid advocacy. "This ban is certainly a step forward," he said. But he expressed concern about the ability to define the distinction between advice and advocacy, which had been felt by many members of the Nolan committee. "I do worry about the speed with which this whole exercise has been conducted," he added, saying that that he was concerned

whether it had been "totally thought through".

Robert Maclean, the Liberal Democrat president, said the arguments against disclosure were "specious". But the whole debate was more than a question of public sleaze. It was a question of how Parliament was showing itself unable to deal with the huge increase in business. This had led to a rapid increase in the number of consultancies and adviserships

Nolan has offered us medicine that we must swallow

outside Parliament. "The whole process of overload will lead to the breakdown of Parliament," he said. "The Nolan committee has offered us some medicine which we must swallow."

John Biffen, a former Leader of the House, said that he would support full disclosure. The debate was driven by public unease about the affairs of Parliament and MPs could not avoid the "forces outside this chamber". He said: "I cannot see the House turning away from the requirement for financial disclosure. That cannot be avoided."

Sir Terence Higgins (C,



Alex Salmond, SNP, Robert Maclean, Lib Dem, and Ann Taylor, Labour, joining forces before the debate

Commons' new regime takes shape

By Arthur Leathley
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MPs will see the first signs of the new disciplinary regime introduced after the Nolan report on standards in public life as early as next week.

When the Commons returns for the Queen's Speech on November 15, MPs will come under the scrutiny of an independent ethics ombudsman, Sir Gordon Downey, the newly appointed Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, will give MPs confidential advice on adhering to their new code of conduct.

The code, based on recommendations from the Nolan inquiry, will demand that MPs follow the "seven principles of public life", showing selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. In particular, it will aim to ensure that there is no conflict of interest between their work as MPs and outside business, and that their responsibility to constituents overrides any financial interest.

Sir Gordon will begin by advising MPs about the type of paid consultancy and advisory services they will be permitted to carry out under the new rules; MPs seeking new contracts will be expected to refer to him details of their contracts and the services they are offering to clients. MPs with established contracts, however, will be allowed a period in which to submit details.

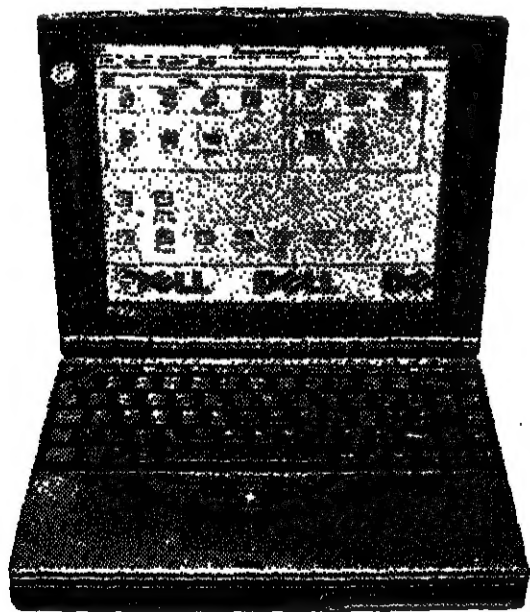
The commissioner, who will work a four-day week, will offer confidential advice to MPs about matters of propriety. He will also set up induction courses on conduct for new MPs.

Shortly after the Commons returns, MPs will appoint a new Select Committee on Standards and Privileges, taking the place of the committee on Members' Interests and Privileges, which has existed since the 17th century.

To speed up the present system of investigating alleged breaches by MPs, Sir Gordon will consider initial complaints before passing cases that need further examination to the committee, probably comprising seven of the most senior MPs.

Under the Nolan proposals, the commissioner will be given wide powers to demand evidence to be given to the select committee, which is expected to sit in public unless there are exceptional circumstances or legal constraints.

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Divorce reform Bill to go ahead

By Jill Sherman
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CONTROVERSIAL plans to reform the divorce law will be included in the Government's programme for the next parliamentary session despite strong opposition from Tory rightwingers. It was agreed yesterday.

The Government's business managers decided that the Divorce Law Reform Bill would go ahead after the Prime Minister threw his weight behind the Lord Chancellor's proposals. It was also agreed that Tory MPs would be given a free vote.

In return, Lord Mackay of Clashfern is said to have given a commitment to Cabinet colleagues who oppose the legislation that he will be prepared to amend the Bill as it goes through Parliament. Rightwingers fear that the reforms will make divorce easier and undermine the Government's commitment to the family.

Yesterday Downing Street also confirmed that all ministers had settled their spending programmes for next year. A Cabinet meeting intended to reach a final settlement was cancelled.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY in the Commons: questions to social security ministers, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Debate on select committee proposals for implementing the Nolan committee's recommendations in the Lords Disability Discrimination Bill, Commons amendments: Criminal Injuries Compensation Bill, third reading; Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act (Amendment) Order.

TODAY in the Commons: questions to education and employment ministers and the Prime Minister (Michael Heseltine standing in for John Major). Debate on Criminal Injuries Compensation Bill, Lords amendments; and on select committees. In the Lords, debate on rural England.

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French begin extradition moves

Britain holds four for Islamic bombs

By Stewart Tandler, Ben Macintyre and Michael Evans

FRENCH authorities yesterday began preparing an extradition request for Abdelkadir Benouif, the Algerian arrested by Scotland Yard in a series of raids linked to Islamic fundamentalist bombings in France.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, gave the Yard's anti-terrorist branch permission last night to hold Mr Benouif for another 48 hours under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. Another Algerian arrested with Benouif was released and then rearrested over possible immigration breaches and faces questioning by Home Office officials.

The Yard said that another three men arrested in Chiswick, west London, remained in custody at the high-security section of Paddington Green police station. A fourth man had been released.

Benouif, who uses the nom de guerre Abou Fares, was described by the French press last week as the mastermind behind the bombings. He has

been living in the Hammer-smith area of west London and receiving social security benefits. According to Algerian sources, he is a veteran of the war in Afghanistan, where he served with the Mujahidin. He arrived in Britain in 1992 after fleeing Algeria where the authorities say he was convicted in his absence of taking part in an airport bombing.

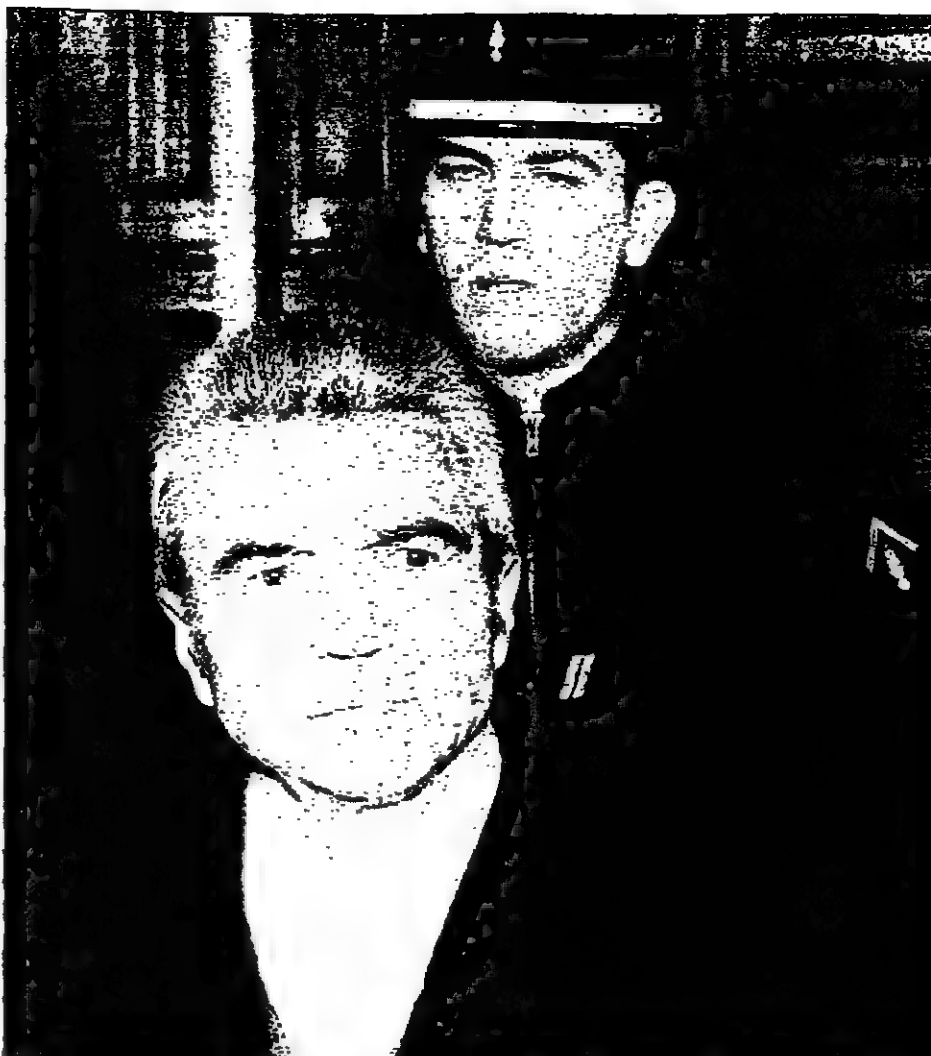
The Foreign Office has been warned on a number of occasions about the presence in Britain of Algerian dissidents who have been convicted of being involved in a terrorist bomb explosion that killed nine people and injured more than 200 at Algiers airport in August 1992. Algerian sources confirmed yesterday that Benouif had been sentenced to death for his alleged part in the airport bombing. He is appealing against a decision denying him political asylum. Foreign Office sources said they were aware of Algerian concerns, but said the Home

Office was responsible for dealing with dissidents who entered Britain and sought political asylum.

Intelligence sources admitted that if a foreigner convicted of a terrorist crime came to Britain with false papers, deportation was not an easy matter unless there was an international arrest warrant. They said it was up to the country from where he came to seek extradition. Algeria, however, does not have extradition rights with Britain.

Algerian sources said they had evidence that dissidents who were trying to overthrow their Government frequently distributed leaflets at the mosque in Regent's Park and at another in Finsbury Park.

Smain Ait Ali Belkacem, another Algerian arrested during last week's massive security operation in Paris, Lyons and Lille, was yesterday charged with involvement in the latest bomb attack in Paris on October 17.



Christian Didier, 51, in court yesterday. He had staged bizarre publicity stunts before he gained the notoriety he craved by killing René Bousquet

Killer of Vichy 'monster' plays to the gallery

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

CHRISTIAN DIDIER began his trial yesterday for killing Nazi collaborator René Bousquet with a typical display of self-aggrandisement. When asked to state his profession, the unemployed former chauffeur said: "Let us say I have done 36,000 miseries. I define myself as a writer."

The Paris court must decide whether M. Didier, 51, shot dead the highest-ranking Vichy official alive in 1993 out of moral outrage, anger at the slowness of the French judicial system or a deranged bid to attract public attention.

M. Didier had written five novels, none of them published, and had a history of staging bizarre publicity stunts before he gained the notoriety he craved on June 8, 1993. He shot dead Bousquet, the former head of police under the Vichy regime responsible for sending thousands of French Jews to their deaths in Nazi death camps, just two weeks before he was due to stand trial for crimes

against humanity. Bousquet was then 84.

M. Didier was elegantly dressed, with hair neatly brushed, as he confidently took his seat in court yesterday. He had already served a prison sentence for threatening to murder the former Gestapo chief, Klaus Barbie, and pulled off a number of attention-seeking escapades before he killed Bousquet. His taste for self-publicity was evident just hours after the event when he summoned television crews and proudly declared what he had done. "Eliminating a monster is an honourable thing. It is the victory of good over evil," he announced.

Bousquet's case, which had been repeatedly delayed, prompted allegations that the French establishment was unwilling to address the reality of the Vichy years. "If French justice had not failed, then Bousquet would be alive today and Didier would be a free man," a defence lawyer, Arnaud Montebourg, said yesterday.

'Changed story' led to Andreotti charge

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

CHANGES in evidence by Giulio Andreotti while under interrogation swayed a judge in the decision to order the former Prime Minister to stand trial accused of murdering the journalist Mino Pecorelli, judicial sources said yesterday.

The sources, quoted by *La Stampa* newspaper, said that after questioning by magistrates earlier this year the 76-year-old life senator admitted for the first time that he had sent an assistant, Carlo Zaccaria, to ask a former nightclub owner not to mention his name to investigators examining a series of bank

cheques. Investigators suspect the cheques were linked to a story Pecorelli wrote for his magazine *Osservatore Politico*, which specialised in blackmailing politicians.

The story — entitled "The Cheques of the Prime Minister" — was not published after Pecorelli received a £20,000 payment arranged by a close aide of Signor Andreotti, Franco Evangelisti.

Signor Andreotti, who has been Prime Minister seven times, said he asked the favour in May 1993 because he was under separate investigation on suspicion of collusion with the Sicilian Mafia. He also acknowledged under interrogation, for the first time, that he had known Pecorelli had planned articles attacking him because the journalist had told Signor Andreotti's right-hand man, Claudio Vitalone, the former Trade Minister. Signor Vitalone has also been ordered to stand trial in February for the 1979 shooting of the journalist.

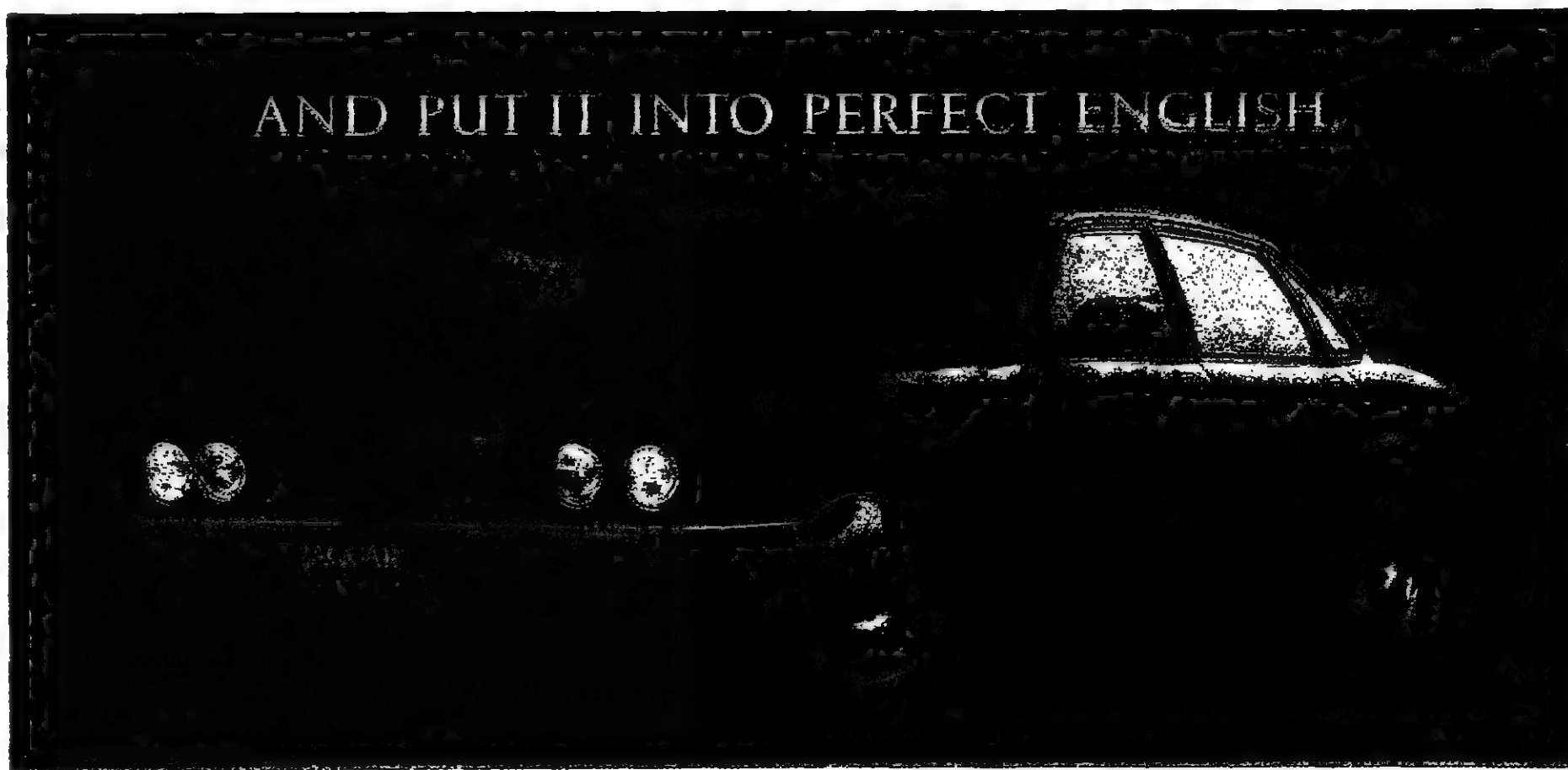
Six Mafia supergrasses have given evidence that led investigating magistrates to conclude that the journalist was shot by a Cosa Nostra hit man and a former neo-fascist terrorist on the orders of Mafia bosses who were allegedly doing Signor Andreotti a favour to prevent damaging disclosures.



Andreotti: accused of killing journalist

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Bosnia plan by US would pave way for Karadzic trial

By TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A DRAFT constitution for Bosnia-Herzegovina presented at the peace talks in Ohio would bar Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, from any elected office and pave the way for his arrest by the United Nations war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

The blueprint, allowing any eligible voter to seek a seat in a proposed nine-member Bosnian presidency or a parliament of 36, excludes "a person under indictment, or convicted by, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia".

Both Dr Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military commander, were indicted by the tribunal earlier this year, but discussion of their future under a peace settlement had not featured in previous negotiations between Richard Holbrooke, the US special envoy, and President Milosevic of Serbia.

The Ohio summit suffered a setback yesterday when Serbs attending talks in Croatia said they had rejected new proposals for the return of Eastern

Slavonia to Croatia. In Bosnia, the UN said that French peacekeepers had been attacked and seven wounded in the worst incident since the October 12 ceasefire.

Mr Milosevic in Dayton to represent Bosnian Serb interests, was said yesterday to be indignant about the draft plan. "He thinks the Americans brought him to Dayton under false pretences," one US official said yesterday. "They want him to make concessions that were not mentioned during Holbrooke's previous talks with him."

The Serbian leader would rather not sacrifice the Bosnian Serb leadership in a way that might affect his own position, but he is thought to be prepared to do so if he can replace them with his own loyalists.

In Zagreb, Milan Milosevic, the chief Serb negotiator at the talks on Eastern Slavonia, said his side had rejected a draft presented by mediators Peter Galbraith, the US Ambassador to Croatia, and

Thorvald Stoltenberg, the UN envoy, after talks on Sunday about the disputed region.

The Serbs had offered their own document demanding a three-year transition period during which Eastern Slavonia would be under UN administration, followed by a referendum to decide on its final status, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug quoted Mr Milosevic as saying. Croatia wants only a one-year transition period.

Eastern Slavonia is the last area of Croatia still controlled by Serbs, after Croatian forces recaptured other regions this summer. President Tudjman of Croatia has said the UN peacekeeping mandate in Croatia will not be renewed at the end of this month and said that the return of Eastern Slavonia must be agreed by then to avoid war.

Meanwhile, unknown attackers opened fire and hurled grenades at French troops in a UN base near the south Bosnian town of Mostar, wounding seven.



After laying flowers at the Lenin Mausoleum in preparation for today's commemoration of Revolution Day, this solitary communist demonstrator stood with the Soviet flag in Moscow's Red Square yesterday

Yeltsin plans to stand for second term

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN does intend to seek a second term in office, despite illness and plummeting popularity, according to a senior Kremlin official.

"I think that he has basically taken the decision" to stand again next year, Sergei Filatov, Mr Yeltsin's chief of staff, said in an interview on the Itogi television

programme. The statement on Sunday night was the strongest Kremlin hint yet that the President is planning to run again and not transfer power to Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister. The presidential election is scheduled for June.

Mr Yeltsin has said he will not make an announcement on the issue until after next month's parliamentary elections. The President's political future has been

in doubt since he suffered a heart attack ten days ago, his second in less than four months. Mr Chernomyrdin, who represented Russia at Yitzhak Rabin's funeral yesterday, is increasingly talked of as the "official" candidate for the presidency next year. Israeli television even called the Prime Minister "Mr Yeltsin's successor", and drew a quick apology from CNN, which was using the coverage, to "Mr Yeltsin if he is watching".

Landslide victory for Georgian President

FROM RICHARD BEECHAM IN TELAVI

GEORGIA'S newly elected President, Eduard Shevardnadze, thanked his countrymen yesterday for his decisive victory and promised to deliver his nation from its economic and political woes.

After it became clear that he had secured a landslide in Sunday's presidential elections, Mr Shevardnadze called the result a "victory for Georgia". Ivan Kiguradze, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, said Mr Shevardnadze had secured 70 per cent of the vote in areas where ballots had been counted. He added that more than 60 per cent of the electorate had voted, validating the polls.

Despite complaints by some opposition leaders of irregularities, foreign observers monitoring polling stations said balloting had been conducted without any serious incidents.

"A big majority of the population has accepted my programme to save the country," said Mr Shevardnadze. He was sufficiently confident to leave for Jerusalem to attend the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin.

Walesa has edge in vote scramble

BY ROGER BOYES

POLAND'S leading politicians, President Walesa and the former Communist minister, Aleksander Kwasniewski, yesterday began the scramble for the missing votes needed to win outright victory in the second round of the presidential elections.

The counting of votes, not officially complete until today, has given Mr Kwasniewski, 41, a bigger edge than predicted in Sunday's exit polls. Preliminary figures give him almost 35 per cent of the vote, compared to Mr Walesa's 33 per cent. Somehow both men have to convince supporters of the 11 other unsuccessful candidates to transfer their allegiance and push them over the necessary 50 per cent margin.

The conventional wisdom is that the arithmetic will favour Mr Walesa. Some 20 per cent of the votes were for centrist, right-wing or Solidarity-rooted candidates. And the logic of voting for Mr Walesa still holds good: he is the only candidate who can block the seemingly unstoppable ascent of Mr Kwasniewski and the new-look Communists.

Mr Walesa, who recovered from rock-bottom single-figure popularity ratings, needs to maintain the impetus of his campaign. But he started on the wrong foot yesterday by demanding the resignation of the central bank governor,

Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, and the Ombudsman, Tadeusz Zieliński. Both are rivals in the election, and Mrs Gronkiewicz-Waltz in particular appealed to a Roman Catholic electorate which might have been expected to switch its votes to Mr Walesa. Now they may be less certain.

The run-off on November 19 will be a symbolic contest, pitting the erstwhile strike leader against a man who has done much to reinvent Polish communism and package it as a socially acceptable social democracy. The big question is whether Mr Kwasniewski is able to make "designer socialism" seem harmless, convincing and sensible.

The former journalist was quick to challenge Mr Walesa yesterday to a television duel. There are few real policy differences, but Mr Kwasniewski knows that he can look more presidential than Mr Walesa on television.

A new Polish President should be a forceful lobbyist for local democracy and independent democratic institutions. Instead both candidates have strong tendencies to centralise power.

"It is a choice between bad and bad," said the third-placed candidate, Jacek Kuron. Poles may well decide to stay away from the ballot box on November 19.

Aga Khan fails to stop jewellery sale

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

THE AGA KHAN and his former wife, Begum Salimah, are locked in a legal battle over a jewellery collection worth an estimated \$15 million (£9.5 million) and widely regarded as one of the most prestigious in the world.

Begum Salimah, a British-born former top model who built up the 260-piece collection from gifts received during the couple's 25-year marriage, won the first round yesterday when a local court in Switzerland repealed a blocking order obtained by the Aga Khan.

Lawyers for him said that he hoped to appeal against the court's decision but the auctioneers, Christie's, said it was confident that the sale would go ahead.

The jewels are due to go under the hammer in Geneva next Monday. They include diamonds, emeralds and rubies, in pieces specially made for the couple by some of the world's most famous jewellers, as well as the Begum Blue, a heart-shaped, 13.78-carat, deep-blue diamond, which forms the centrepiece of a pendant necklace with 41 other diamonds.

It is expected to fetch more than half the value of the whole sale. Christie's said that part of the proceeds would go to charity.

The Aga Khan, who is spiritual leader of the Ismaili Muslims, claims that he has first right to family heirlooms under the couple's divorce settlement.

The Geneva court ruled that his claim would not be



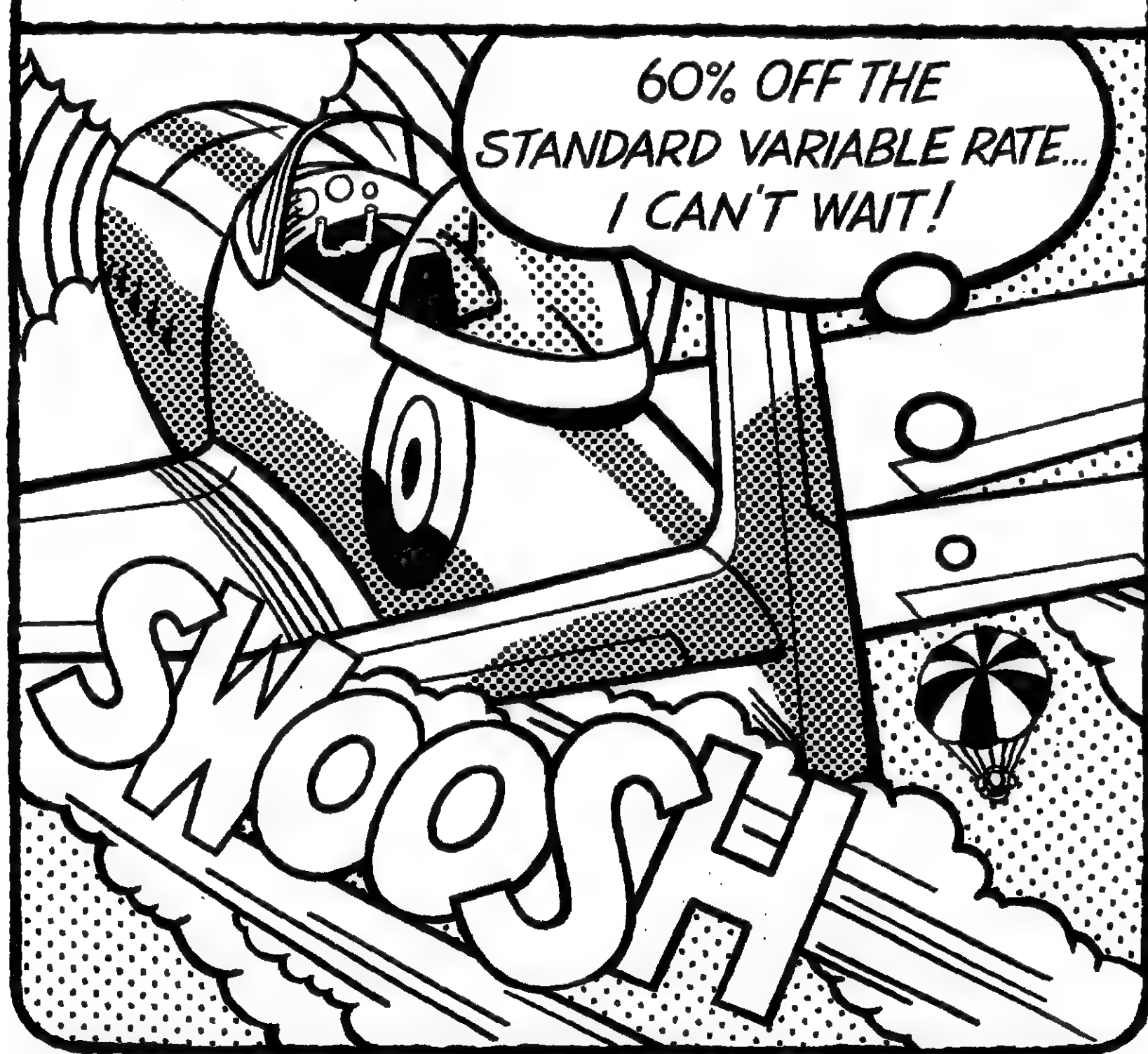
Begum Salimah: divorce settlement dispute

affected by the auction, limited to 23 pieces, worth an estimated 1.8 per cent of the collection.

The 55-year-old Begum and the Aga Khan were divorced last March. As part of the settlement, the couple are understood to have agreed that the jewels would remain her property.

Some experts believe that the dispute will boost the value of the auction if it goes ahead.

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TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7 1995

Landslide victory for Georgia President

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lesa has edge in vote scramble

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Gingrich policies face crucial test in state elections

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

VOTERS go to the polls in many states and cities across America today for what is widely seen as the first real referendum on the "Republican Revolution" since Newt Gingrich and his conservative cohorts seized control of Congress exactly a year ago.

The Republicans hope to capitalise on their 1994 triumph and build momentum for next year's presidential race by winning their first Southern state since the Civil War in Virginia, snatching Kentucky's governorship for the first time since 1967, and holding on to the Mississippi governorship they captured in 1991 for the first time in more than a century.

The Republicans would naturally interpret a triple victory as an endorsement of their congressional crusade to end "big government" and evidence of a permanent realignment in American politics.

If they fall short, Democrats will claim that the country is rejecting the "revolution" as too extreme and that the results of last year were a flash in the pan.

A poll by *The Wall Street Journal* last Friday showed only 40 per cent of respondents had a positive view of the Republican Party, the lowest since it won Congress. By 45 per cent to 35 the public disagreed with most of what Congress was doing, and by 64 per cent to 26 worried the Republicans would go too far.

Yesterday, however, a *Washington Post* poll showed that, by 55 per cent to 25, respondents believed the Republicans better represented their views on national issues.

About 40 larger American cities are electing mayors today including Houston, Baltimore, Salt Lake City and Philadelphia, but the easily most colourful race is in San Francisco, one of America's last bastions of liberalism where Frank Jordan, the incumbent, is resorting to remarkable measures to stave off two fellow Democrats - Willie Brown, the former California assembly speaker, and Roberta Achtenberg, who was until recently an assistant

secretary at the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the most senior gay official in the Clinton Administration.

With polls showing him in a dead heat with Mr Brown and only narrowly ahead of Ms Achtenberg, the normally staid Mr Jordan recently jumped into his shower with two radio disc jockeys to show he was "squeaky clean" and had "nothing to hide". The city's newspapers have since been gleefully reprinting pictures of the naked mayor.

Nineteen of the cities with mayoral elections are participating in a presidential straw poll called CityVote that was meant to increase the political influence of urban voters. However, the initiative has been undermined by the refusal of most presidential candidates to take part.

Maine will vote on a measure to ban anti-discrimination legislation for homosexuals. Mississippi is expected to become the twenty-

member House and three in the 40-member Senate to capture the Richmond statehouse where the rebel Confederate Congress once sat, and opinion polls suggest that they have a good chance.

Both the parties are seeking to play the Gingrich card to their advantage. The Republicans are campaigning on an unashamedly Gingrich-style platform and have produced a state version of the Speaker's *Contract With America*.

But Charles Robb, Virginia's Democratic Senator, has said: "If you don't think elections matter, look at what happened in Washington. Please don't let that happen in Virginia."

It is the same story in the Kentucky gubernatorial race. Larry Forgy, a wealthy Republican lawyer, has campaigned on a conservative platform of lower taxes, less government regulation and hostility to abortion.

His Democratic opponent, Paul Patton, presently the state's Lieutenant-Governor, has been urging voters: "Let's say no to Newt, no to [Republican Senate leader Robert] Dole, no to demagoguery, no to radicalism." The result is too close to call with Mr Forgy having pulled almost level with Mr Patton in the final days.

In Mississippi, polls showed that the once-substantial lead of Kirk Fordice, the Republican Governor, over Dick Molpus, the Democratic Secretary of State, has narrowed to just five points. Mr Fordice has expressed his total support for Mr Gingrich's "revolution that changed America for ever", but that is not his main problem in a deeply conservative state.

He managed to forfeit much of the white female vote as a couple of weeks ago by mockingly imitating the voice of Mr Molpus's wife, Sally, who had appeared in television commercials attacking the Governor's education record.

"Frankly I'd like to take him out behind the woodshed," said Mr Molpus, seeking to exploit the Old South's sense of gallantry.



Gingrich: Republicans backing radical line

second state to limit the terms of its elected officials, and some of Colorado's most exclusive ski resorts are likely to back measures curtailing their explosive growth.

Virginia's state elections are attracting the most attention, and both the national parties have poured in money and big names. The Republicans need to gain four seats in the 100-

Letters in jailer's book irk Mandela

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENT MANDELA of South Africa has instructed lawyers to investigate a possible breach of copyright by his former jailer and friend, James Gregory, after contents of intimate letters to family members during his 27-year imprisonment were reprinted in a book, allegedly without his authorisation.

Extracts from the letters are included in Mr Gregory's recently published memoirs of his relationship with the then prisoner entitled *Goodbye Bafana - Nelson Mandela, My Prisoner, My Friend*.

For nearly two decades he was Nelson Mandela's chief censor and guard on Robben Island - and later at Pollsmoor and Victor Verster prisons. He had an intimate knowledge of his prisoner's private life.

According to Iqbal Meer, the President's solicitor, the publishers were explicitly denied permission to use three letters printed in the book.

Mr Mandela is understood to be upset that Mr Gregory and others are cashing in on their relationship.

Brigadier Chris Olckers, for the Department of Correctional Services, said prison employees are not required to sign an oath of secrecy but it was considered unethical to talk about such matters.

Mr Gregory, in Britain to launch the book, said the inclusion of the extracts had had nothing to do with him, adding: "The publishers must answer why they used the letters if permission was refused. If I had known this would cause upset, I would have taken the extracts out."

Celia Kent, a managing editor at Headline, the British publisher, said the copyright dispute was a matter for the book's French publishers.

Malala set back: Dullah Omar, the Justice Minister, has dismissed calls for Magnus Malan, a former Defence Minister, and ten former senior apartheid-era military officials to be granted temporary indemnity. He added that the KwaZulu/Natal Attorney-General had acted independently in arresting the men in connection with the death of 13 people in 1987.



Imelda Marcos, widow of the Philippines dictator, takes her seat in the House of Representatives in Manila yesterday, four months after a disputed electoral victory

High-stepping Imelda Marcos settles into a seat of power

FROM ABBY TAN IN MANILA

THE shoes seemed to fit, although a bit awkwardly. Imelda Marcos, the former First Lady of the Philippines renowned for her shoe collection, strode confidently into Congress yesterday to complete a stunning comeback.

After a four-month delay, Mrs Marcos, 67, widow of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, took the congressional oath as representative for Leyte province.

The Supreme Court had

ruled her landslide victory in the May election legal, nullifying a rival's bid to have her disqualified. Yet Mrs Marcos could lose her seat if the Supreme Court upholds her conviction on corruption charges. She was sentenced in 1993 to 24 years' jail, but is free pending appeal.

Mrs Marcos was challenged by Teresita Aquino Oreta, a fellow representative and sister of Marcos's arch-enemy, Benigno Aquino, who

was murdered in 1983 by soldiers. Mrs Oreta said Mrs Marcos "could tell us the secret of the assassination".

Mrs Marcos said: "The role I intend to pursue is as natural as a mother's love offered to everyone."

Typhoon aftermath: Electricity has been restored in Manila and businesses have resumed operation in the wake of Typhoon Angela, which killed more than 700 people last week.

WORLD SUMMARY

70 hurt in Dhaka blockade

Dhaka: A senior opposition leader said yesterday that Bangladesh was heading for more violence after nearly 70 people were hurt in clashes between protesters and police in the capital during a national transport shutdown.

"The country is now poised to face confrontation. The Government wanted confrontation and they have it," said Mohammad Nasim of the Awami League.

The blockade was called by the main opposition parties in a continuing effort to force elections under a neutral caretaker government. They called for a week-long national strike from Saturday. (Reuters)

Bites or stings kill 100,000

Geneva: Snakes, scorpions and other venomous creatures kill more than 100,000 of the five million people they sting or bite each year worldwide, according to the World Health Organisation.

The greatest proportion of deaths occur in developing countries. In Asia, snakes kill 30,000 a year, compared with 1,000 in Africa and South America. Fatalities are far fewer in wealthy countries: of 45,000 people bitten by snakes in the US, only nine to 15 die. (AFP)

US 'Popeye' detective dies

New York: Eddie Egan, New York's best-known policeman, has died. Detective Egan, the inspiration for Gene Hackman's "Popeye" Doyle in *The French Connection*, earned his nickname for the way he would flex his biceps like the cartoon muscleman. Egan made more than 8,000 arrests, but pulled his gun only three times.



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Peres has chance to exploit backlash against Right

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN JERUSALEM

AS Shimon Peres held his first meeting with President Clinton last night as acting Prime Minister of Israel, the dilemma facing the new leader in the wake of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin began to loom large.

Western governments and

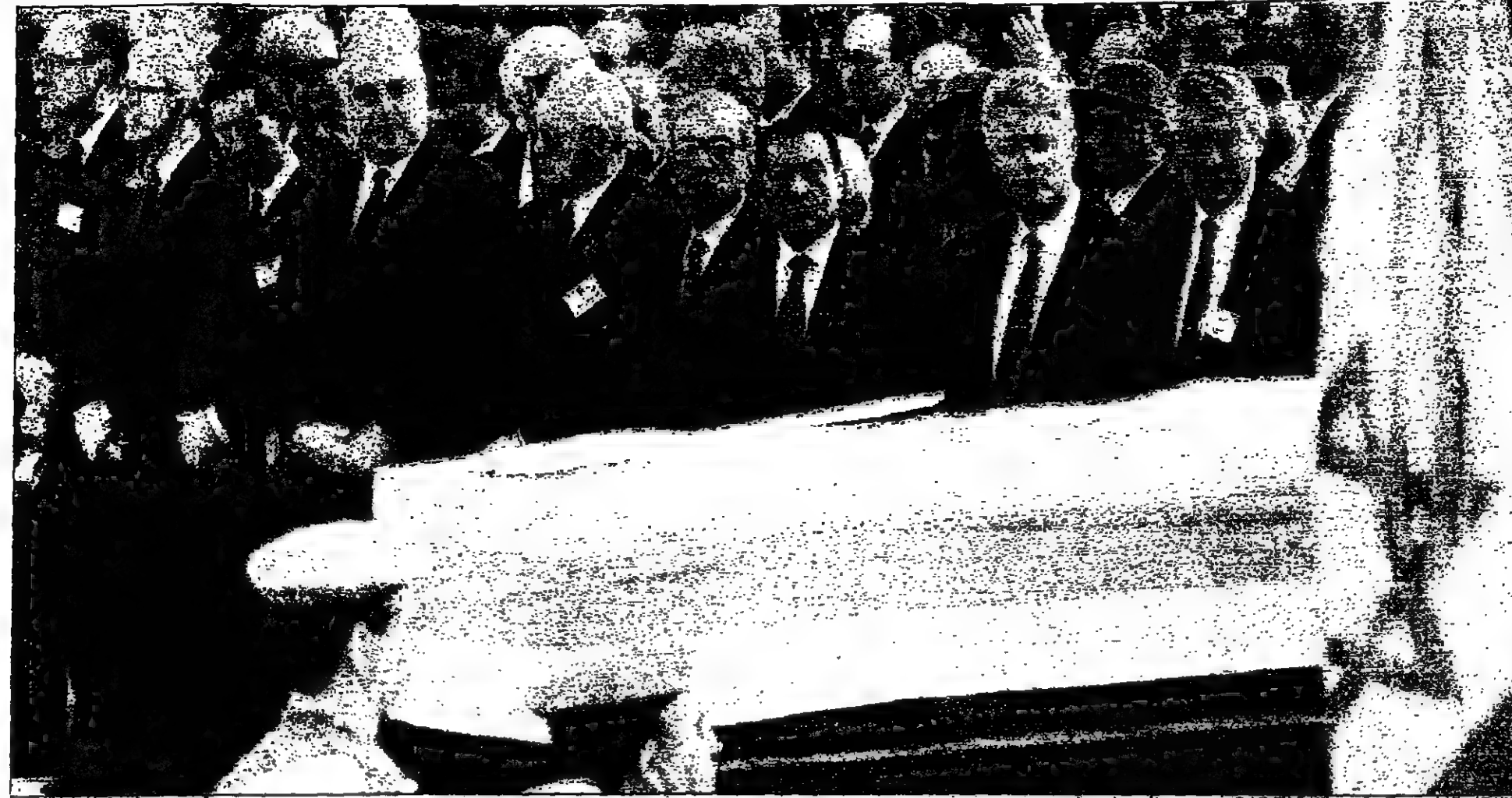
LEADER'S DILEMMA

large sections of the Israeli people have made clear that they want Mr Peres to pursue the peace process with at least the same vigour as Mr Rabin. But some members of the ruling Labour Party have cautioned that any acceleration in moves to evacuate the West Bank could alienate voters before next year's election.

Mr Peres, who has been overcome with emotion and grief and has the added strain of knowing that he was also one of the assassin's targets, is regarded as a man brimming with political vision but who lacks Mr Rabin's earthy rapport with Israelis.

"Peres is not going to rush into anything, although there are those in the party convinced that he could cash in with early elections," one Labour official said. "There is a revolution at the way provocations by the Right appear to have motivated the killer."

Speculation that the first assassination of an Israeli Prime Minister would erode right-wing support was encouraged by Yosef Lapid, a leading commentator. Writing in the mass-circulation daily *Maariv*, he argued: "Whoever felt even a bit of sympathy for



World figures at yesterday's funeral, from left, President Chirac of France, John Major, the Prince of Wales, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and President Herzog of Germany, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations Secretary-General, President Mubarak of Egypt, President Clinton and Wim Kok, Dutch Prime Minister

the extreme Right will learn the lesson of this tragedy and turn away from them."

Labour members who share that view have been pressing Mr Peres to bring the election forward from its scheduled date, next November, to the early spring, while at the same time keeping to the timetable

agreed with the Palestine Liberation Organisation for the West Bank evacuation. But their advice is being countered within Labour by those who note that Mr Peres has been the most vehement opponent of an early poll.

Signs of a backlash against the main right-wing Likud

opposition, led by Benjamin Netanyahu, have begun to appear, in slogans describing him as an "inciter" and in articles by rightwingers calling for recent policies to be re-examined. Haim Ramon, a former ally of Mr Rabin who left Labour and now runs the Histadrut labour federation,

said that the assassin had been influenced by opposition rhetoric labelling Mr Rabin a "murderer" and a "traitor".

Mr Peres, a man with a reputation as a political manipulator, has to take into account that both Mr Ramon and Ehud Barak, a former chief of staff recently appoint-

ed Interior Minister, may consider challenging him for the party leadership. Mr Ramon had promised not to challenge Mr Rabin but their relations have been acrimonious. Despite the current veneer of harmony in the face of a national disaster, tension between the Rabin and Peres

remains high. Israeli opinion is split on its assessment of the effects of the assassination. While President Weizman and some right-wing politicians have called for a bridging of differences, Meir Shalev, an author linked to the left-wing peace camp, said yesterday that unity was

"less possible now than ever". Many Israelis regard Mr Peres as the chief architect of the current peace process and believe he carried the more security-conscious Mr Rabin, a former chief of staff, with him. "Peres will find it much more difficult than Rabin to sell concessions for peace to the Israeli public," a diplomat at yesterday's funeral said.

The Israeli stock exchange — much less badly hit by the assassination than had been expected — now expects pressure from Israel's allies on countries like Syria, still officially at war with Israel, to reach what one Tel Aviv broker called "sensible terms". The main question exercising Israelis last night was how Mr Peres will act in pursuing the peace process — as opposed to his double act with Mr Rabin, which although often strained provided the type of balance necessary to muster support for any deal.

Many of those observing yesterday's funeral noted that similar emotion and unity among the public would not have been generated had Mr Peres been the victim. For that reason, some observers have expressed strong hopes that he will proceed with caution in the speed with which he conducts the crucial coming stages of the peace deal.

Nabil Shaath, who led the delegation of four Palestinian Authority ministers to the funeral, said that after a 48-hour gap for national mourning the timetable for an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank must be observed. But Jewish settlers are expected to resume their campaign for the process to be halted.

Leading article, page 19

Grief mingles with politics beside graves of the great

By ANNE McELVON

WITH so many world leaders in attendance, the burial of Yitzhak Rabin provided a rare modern example of the great state funeral, in which grief, pomp and politics vie with each other amid a welter of symbols and underlying messages.

The mourning of a leader who dies in office is a highly-charged event. Such funerals have become rare thanks to the spread of democracy in the Eastern bloc dislodging aged communist dictators and a parallel tendency in the West to elect younger leaders.

The assassinated Israeli leader's burial was the largest state funeral since the Emperor Hirohito was laid to rest in February 1989 in a ritual attended by 54 heads of state.

Yesterday, both Egypt and Jordan sent their leaders and of the main Arab players in the Middle East, only the hardline Syrians made a point by staying away.

The Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was absent on security grounds but was careful to send a senior enough representative for his absence not to be considered a snub.

Decisions about whether and who to send are tricky since they have to be made quickly and there are few guidelines or precedents.

The Foreign Office says that it is purely a matter for the government of the day, although the Queen never attends state funerals.

Western leaders stayed away from Stalin's interment and both President Reagan and Margaret Thatcher failed to attend President Brezhnev's. But Mrs Thatcher abruptly reversed this policy by travelling to the funerals of Presidents Andropov and Chernenko, seeing them as forums for tentative rapprochement and a chance to get to know the rising star, Mikhail Gorbachev, better.

The impact of Andropov and Chernenko's funerals, which fell within 13 months of each other, brought home to



John Major and the Prince of Wales among the mourners at Mr Rabin's funeral yesterday

the peoples of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe the sclerotic nature of the communist regime as it embarked upon its terminal phase.

Political funerals at this level are as much about the living as the dead. Deciding whether or not to go sends a clear signal about intentions towards the successor.

But distaste for General Franco was such that, even though the prospect of King Juan Carlos as his successor was reassuring, European countries sent only ambassadors.

Recent history abounds with the repercussions of mistakes in funeral etiquette.

Ground sacred for Zionists

Jerusalem: Yitzhak Rabin's final resting place at Mount Herzl here was named for the founder of political Zionism (Ross Dunn writes). Theodor Herzl, an Austrian whose book *A Jewish State* encouraged others to fight for the creation of Israel, is buried there with other Zionist leaders. Among other prominent figures buried there are Golda Meir and Menachem Begin.

They also allow those who rule us to satisfy the unquenchable human curiosity about the charisma of their international peers. General de Gaulle and Mrs Thatcher were inveterate and stylish mourners. In a political culture which has reduced superpower summits to PR opportunities, the state funeral has become the last truly dignified event in which outsiders share in the national traditions of their dead colleague — of poetry, music, silence and, in the case of the haunting tribute to Yitzhak Rabin, the long, reproachful wail of Jerusalem's sirens.

The main advantage of the funerals of the great, from the guests' point of view, is that their timing is involuntary and their location determined by fate, so that they yield a more honest snapshot of the state of international relations than carefully planned meetings such as those of the G7 or the inter-governmental conferences on Europe.

Thus President Clinton will have studied the implacable features of Viktor Chernenko, the Russian Prime Minister, during the service and may even have taken the opportunity to have a quiet consultation with him about the mixed signals from Moscow on the seriousness of President Yeltsin's illness.

Muslims revile memory of man who 'reaped fruit of terrorism'

FROM REUTERS
IN BEIRUT

LEBANON

NEWSPAPERS, politicians and Muslim leaders in Lebanon recalled yesterday the dark side of Yitzhak Rabin, reviling his memory for founding his villages and for breaking the bones of Palestinian children.

Although Israel's Prime Minister was killed by a Jew, Muslim clerics from southern Lebanon said he reaped the fruit of the "terrorism" he practised against their land. "Rabin's life is full of hatred and terrorism... he who cooks poison eats it," Sheikh Abdel Amir Qabalan, the Shia Mufti, said in a speech published yesterday. The sheikh comes from a southern village

occupied by Israeli troops who invaded Lebanon in 1978 and 1982 to crush the PLO. Parliamentary deputies from the south, where villagers suffer daily Israeli bombardment in retaliation for Muslim guerrilla attacks on Israeli troops occupying a border zone, also condemned his memory.

"We'll never forget the terrorism practised by Rabin and his colleagues in south Lebanon, western Bekaa and the Golan Heights," said Ahmad Ajami, a Shia MP from the southern port of Tyre.

Adnan Traboulsi, a Beirut Sunni MP, said the murder "brought back smiles to the faces of the orphans of Pales-

tine and south Lebanon". In July 1993, Mr Rabin ordered an offensive, vowing to make southern Lebanon uninhabitable unless raids on occupying Israeli troops stopped. Averaging the killing of seven troops, his forces bombarded villages for seven days, killing 130 people, wounding 600 and destroying thousands of homes. Beirut newspapers also recalled that he ordered soldiers to break the arms of children who threw stones in the Palestinian intifada.

Politicians said only last week that he had welcomed the assassination of Fathi Shqaqi, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad chief. On Sunday, militants turned a mourning rally for Shqaqi into a celebration of the assassination.



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'Gentle and thoughtful' student tells court why he decided to shoot peacemaker

Killer says he acted alone 'but maybe with God'

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

IN the mind of Yitzhak Rabin's assassin, the Israeli leader's fate was sealed after he made it clear he would hand over large parts of the biblical land of Israel in return for peace with the Palestinians. It was then that Yigal Amir vowed to kill Mr Rabin in accordance with what he regarded as Jewish religious law.

Mr Amir, 25, a Jewish law student at Bar Ilan religious university in Tel Aviv, has confessed to the fatal shooting of Mr Rabin. He showed no remorse when he appeared in a Tel Aviv court yesterday and was remanded for 15 days.

Mr Amir said he had acted alone, "but maybe with God". He claimed anyone who gave away land promised to the Jews by God could be killed according to Jewish laws.

"I did not commit the act to stop the peace process, because there is no such concept as the peace process, it is a process of war," he said. "The people are indifferent to the fact that a Palestinian state is being created here."

At a later hearing in Tel Aviv, a magistrate ordered the killer's brother, Haggai Amir, 27, to be held for seven days. "He took a bullet, drilled a hole in it and turned it into a lethal bullet which

causes far more damage than a regular one," a police officer told the court. "On the day of the incident they both sat and watched television and Haggai saw him [Yigal] leave. We believe he knew where he was going and didn't try to stop him."

A dudum bullet has a cut in its point that causes it to expand on impact. Police said one of the bullets prepared by Haggai Amir was taken from Mr Rabin's body. Police are investigating to see whether the two brothers belong to any extremist Jewish organisation.

THE ASSASSIN

At Bar Ilan University, where flags flew at half mast, Mr Amir had seemed to fellow students to be like many other young Israelis and displayed few signs that he might take the life of the nation's leader. One student described him as a "very gentle, thoughtful person". Mr Amir did his military service in a religious school, which combines scriptural studies and training as a soldier. He told police that according to the Torah, the first five books of the Old Testament, "anyone who gives away part of the land

of Israel must pay in blood". This shocked Matthew Guralnek, who met Mr Amir daily in the classroom and described him as a serious student. "We knew he was a rightist but there were no signs that he would do something violent. Most of Amir's energies were focused on studying the Torah," he said.

But Ronen Avraham, another student, told Israel Radio that the assassin had "openly admitted that he was opposed to any law which endangered the future of 'greater Israel'". This was a reference to some of the land in the territories occupied by Israel since the 1967 war, which Mr Rabin had said he would transfer to the Palestinians. This was seen as an act of betrayal by Jewish extremists who share a belief that the West Bank, which they refer to by the biblical names of Judaea and Samaria, is part of the land given to Jews by God. These groups support the most ardent Zionists, including many settlers.

Mr Rabin must have realised such groups posed a threat to the peace process. The man he appointed to head the secret police earlier this year and whose name cannot be published is an expert on Jewish underground groups.



Yigal Amir, a university student, being led into a Tel Aviv court yesterday where he confessed to killing Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister. Mr Amir's brother, Haggai, also appeared in court later

Zealot's bullet shatters sacred values of Israel



Amos Oz, the leading Israeli novelist and peace campaigner, attacks both Jewish and Arab fanaticism and urges swift action to suppress the fanatics

Yitzhak Rabin was a personal friend of mine in the 1970s. He was a man almost obsessed with the urge to conceal his emotions. Like many Israelis of his generation, he felt that all feelings ought to remain strictly private. We used to argue about this.

Rabin would say: "What you feel and what you believe. In, yes, you may tell me if you so wish, but please in the end let me know what you think." On one or two occasions he went as far as saying to me: "I think this business makes me a bit sad... but let us consider, rather, what can be done about it."

Our friendship faded when I publicly criticised his half-hearted positions concerning the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 — which I regarded as a disaster. He never bothered to pick up the phone and tell me that he felt hurt about my criticisms; he simply turned a cold shoulder.

I watched him changing gradually and, I suspect, painfully from a reasonable hardliner into an unsentimental dove. I think this change occurred even as, in his capacity as a Defence Minister under Yitzhak Shamir's national unity coalition in the mid- and late 1980s, he was in charge of suppressing the Palestinian intifada. When elected Prime Minister, in 1992, he adopted a "Peace Now" policy, leading Israel towards a historic compromise with the Palestinians.

However, he had never told the public what made him change; he had never even admitted that he had changed. "Feelings," he said to me many years ago, "are your department. I just analyse the situation and try to draw a sensible conclusion."

Over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, he presumably did just that: along with Shimon Peres, Rabin had created a new cognitive condition: a recognition of the Palestinian tragedy and a policy aimed at turning the only homeland of the Israelis and of the Palestinians into a semi-detached house, where Israel and Palestine can coexist as next-door neighbours, if not in mutual love then, at least, in good neighbourliness. A man who

changes is often a traitor in the eyes of those who can never change.

It may turn out that the fanatic who murdered Yitzhak Rabin will hasten the peace process, by making the peace-orientated majority in Israel even more determined to conclude the labour of peace making. The Likud opposition may be against the terms of the present Israeli-Palestinian agreement, but it is genuinely committed to parliamentary democracy.

The assassination of Rabin was not just an attempt to kill peace; it was, first and foremost, an attack on Israeli democracy, on Israel as a lawful society, and on the most sacred values of Judaism. The extremists are keen on fighting the Arabs forever, but they are even more keen on turning Israel into an Iran-like militant theocracy.

Shimon Peres, the acting Prime Minister, has been the architect of the Oslo agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. He will have to act quickly to outlaw those anti-20th-century splinter groups, while demanding that Yasser Arafat be as swift in suppressing the armed terrorist groups in Palestine.

The crucial battle in the Middle East is no longer between Jew and Arab, between Israeli and Palestinian. It is a battle against violent zealots on both sides — those zealots who need the Israeli-Arab conflict in order to retain what they, on both sides, regard as their "identity".

This is the time for Israelis and for Arabs to repel fanaticism. The fertile ground for fanaticism is hopelessness, despair and disorientation. A climate of hope and of courageous progress towards peace would make zealotry shrivel.

Israel under Peres's leadership is going to be more adamant in its quest for peace, and the Arab world ought to be quick in responding by giving Israelis more reasons to opt for hope.

© Amos Oz. His latest novel, *Don't Call It Night*, will be reviewed by Rabbi Julia Neuberger in *The Times* this Thursday.

Rabin made light of his fatal injuries

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

YITZHAK RABIN, lying critically wounded in the back of his black Cadillac, made light of his injuries, according to Menachem Damati, his driver. Mr Damati had put the car in a park next to the Kings of Israel Square in Tel Aviv as Mr Rabin spoke at a pro-peace rally there on Saturday night.

When Mr Rabin was about to get into his car after the rally, a gunman walked up and fired three pistol shots into Mr Rabin's back and

stomach. Mr Damati told the *Yedioth Ahronot* daily newspaper yesterday that Mr Rabin whispered the words, "I'm hurting, but it's not so bad," before he lost consciousness on the way to the hospital.

In the meantime, Shimon Peres, the acting Israeli Prime Minister, said at yesterday's funeral that Mr Rabin had warned him of an assassination threat as they stood together at the peace rally the night he was killed.

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Paul Eddington suffered from a rare and chronic disease that may take 30 years or more to develop, says Dr Thomas Stuttford

Paul Eddington will be remembered affectionately as the actor whose superb timing made the viewers laugh even when the television comedy series in which he was starring tackled serious issues. While his fans laughed, Mr Eddington must have often been feeling far from well, for he achieved his greatest fame after he had fallen prey to both diabetes and mycosis fungoides.

Mycosis fungoides is as rare as diabetes is common. A T-cell lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system, which primarily affects the skin, it begins insidiously as a non-specific itchy rash. Mr Eddington first noticed a spot on his body, but only when it appeared on his face did he resolve to do anything about it. The inflamed patches of skin can be

and often are mistaken for mild eczema or psoriasis. The disease can affect either sex and any age group, but attacks men more often than women, and usually starts in the over-fifties.

Dr Sean Whittaker, a consultant dermatologist at the Royal Free Hospital in north London, made an eight-year study of mycosis fungoides and the disease is now a special interest of the hospital's department of skin diseases.

He explains that low grade lymphomas of the skin, such as mycosis fungoides, are very difficult to cure,

unlike some of the high grade, more active lymphomas, but fortunately they run a very slow course. Mr Eddington had his problem for 15 to 20 years. "The symptoms respond to treatment, and it is not at all uncommon to see patients who have suffered from the disease for 20 years.

There are some who attend my clinic in whom it was diagnosed 30-40 years ago. Not many clinics have cancer patients in their seventies or eighties who have been



attending regularly and benefiting from treatment for over 30 years." In one study of 212 patients, so slow was the course of the disease that only 45 died from the lymphoma, the others perishing from unrelated causes.

As the disease progresses, the rash thickens and forms plaques, which may become actual skin tumours. Only in the very last stages does the disease spread elsewhere in the body, usually to the lymph nodes,

occasionally to the lungs. When death is related to the mycosis fungoides, it is usually from secondary infection.

Dr Whittaker says that in the early stages the lesions usually respond readily to low doses of radiotherapy (much lower doses than are needed to deal with other skin cancers). When the disease has reached the plaque stage, it can, like psoriasis, be treated with PUVA, a combination of a drug and ultraviolet radiation. In the last stages more drastic action is needed and the patient may be prescribed whole body electron beam

therapy twice-weekly for five weeks, an unpleasant experience whose side-effects include total hair loss. Recently, patients have been treated with photophoresis, in which their blood is withdrawn and subjected to the PUVA regime. This induces an immune response to any tumour cells in the blood and, when returned to the body, the skin lesions.

Dr Whittaker says that although mycosis fungoides is very much less common than another lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, its often benign course may mean that it is underdiagnosed.

Contributions to research into skin lymphomas can be made to Dermatitis and Allied Disease Research Trust, 40 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 0EL.

A good life cut short by lymphoma

Why there is no need to get rid of the cat

Dr Trisha Greenhalgh on the simple measures pregnant women can take to avoid toxoplasmosis

IN HIS new film *Nine Months*, Hugh Grant, reluctant father-to-be, is advised to get rid of his cat because of his girlfriend's pregnancy. The doctor alludes to the "little worm" toxoplasmosis, and the girlfriend, Rebecca, suggests that the cat might infect the baby with it by licking a dish or leaving cat hair on the bottle test.

There are inaccuracies here. The organism that causes toxoplasmosis, *Toxoplasma gondii*, is not a worm but a protozoan. It can infect all warm-blooded animals, but is not passed on by saliva or hair, and newborn babies almost never become infected.

Cats, which pick up the organism from birds or mice, can transmit it to humans via their faeces. Strays, and cats which are visibly unwell, are much more likely to be infectious than Rebecca's house-bound specimen. Goats and sheep may pass it on, but much more commonly, the disease may be contracted from undercooked meat or uncooked vegetables.

Between 20 and 50 per cent of the population develop toxoplasmosis at some point. Most cases are subclinical (the person has no symptoms at all), but a glandular fever-like illness may occur, with tiredness, swollen glands, and malaise lasting two to 12 weeks. It is usually followed by full recovery. In Britain, about 1,400 women a year contract the disease when pregnant, causing minimal symptoms in the mother but risking miscarriage, stillbirth, or permanent damage to the baby, including eye damage, fluid on the brain and calcium deposits in brain tissue.

Fortunately, 60 per cent of babies whose mothers develop toxoplasmosis in pregnancy are unaffected, and many of the remainder have such mild disease that they are never diagnosed.

However, poor sight and, occasionally, blindness, significant learning difficulties, and epilepsy occur in about 10 per cent.

Christine Asbury, of the Toxoplasmosis Trust, says: "We would never advise a pregnant woman to get rid of her cat. We spend a lot of time reassuring women that it is unlikely they will get toxoplasmosis from their cat. We explain that you must swallow infected cat faeces and not many people do that."

THE Trust advises pregnant women to wash their hands after contact with a cat, to empty the litter tray every day, wearing gloves, and to observe scrupulous hygiene when preparing and cooking food. All meat should be thoroughly cooked; and raw meat should not be stored near cooked food.

Pregnant women should avoid cheese or yoghurt made from unpasteurised goat's milk. Finally, sandpits should be covered when not in use.

Women who are contemplating pregnancy can ask for a blood test. Those whose blood indicates past infection will not get it again. Women who test negative for toxoplasma antibodies must take particular care when pregnant, and see their doctor if they develop flu or swollen glands persisting for longer than a week.

The Toxoplasmosis Trust help-line is 071-713 0599.

Thousands of people could benefit from a vaccine now under trial, reports Nigel Hawkes

An end to allergy danger?

THE immune system is a wondrous thing, capable of defending us against all manner of enemies. With exquisite sensitivity it can distinguish the millions of substances that make up our own bodies from the billions that may assault us, and, having spotted an alien, deal with it.

Small wonder, perhaps, that it can sometimes go wrong. The symptoms of allergy, from the inconvenience of hay fever to the life-threatening experience of anaphylactic shock, are examples of the immune system in overdrive. About a quarter of the UK population suffers allergies of one sort or another, so the problem is widespread.

Lucy Brown, a 14-year-old schoolgirl from Beckenham, southeast London, has to organise her entire life around the avoidance of nuts. Even a small trace in anything she ate would be enough to trigger a violent reaction. "Recently I went to a wedding," she says. "The bride had eaten a piece of her wedding cake, which contained almonds. When I left she kissed me on the cheek, and in the car going home the whole side of my face became swollen."

Like others who suffer violent reactions of this sort, Lucy always carries with her an injector containing adrenalin. If she feels a strong reaction coming on, she can inject the drug into her thigh, and save her life. The difficulty comes from spotting the dangers, because many foods contain unexpected traces of nut. "When I go to a restaurant, I have to ask if they use nut oil," she says. "I can't go to Chinese restaurants at all."

What people such as Lucy need is a vaccine capable of eliminating the allergic reaction altogether. Yesterday a small British company, Peptide Therapeutics, announced the results of a trial of its Active Allergy Vaccine. They are very encouraging: 13 patients were vaccinated and then challenged with the foods to which they were previously allergic. None reacted.

The patients chosen for the trial, carried out at Bydgoszcz in Poland by Professor Bogdan Romanski, were those with a strong, though not life-threatening reaction to a variety of foods — tomatoes, strawberries, nuts, fish and chicken. The allergen was administered through an endoscope into the patient's stomach, and then observed. Blistering and blanching of the stomach wall proved that



Lucy Brown, 14, has to carry a MedicAlert card and adrenalin injector with her at all times in case she suffers a violent reaction to nuts



The Y-shaped IgE molecule with the peptide highlighted

the patients were indeed allergic. After vaccination, the experiment was repeated.

"The effect was remarkable," Nick Higgins, Peptide Therapeutics' director of licensing, says. "If even half of the 13 had shown a benefit, we would have been hopeful. But all 13 did."

The volunteers were then fed meals, with and without the allergen, in a double-blind trial in which neither patients nor doctors knew which was which. No patient suffered allergic reaction.

The trial went on to study two people with true anaphylaxis, one to nuts and one to fish. They were vaccinated and fed 2.5g of the allergen in a paste, with resuscitation teams standing by in case they reacted violently. But nothing happened. The amount was increased to 12.5g, and then 25g — the equivalent of a

whole bag of peanuts — still without provoking a reaction. "These results were better than we ever expected," Mr Higgins says.

A parallel trial in hay fever patients has also produced good results. After 17 sufferers had been vaccinated, they were followed throughout this year's hay fever season. Only mild symptoms were observed, the company says, despite considerable exposure to the pollen responsible.

Peptide Therapeutics has based its vaccine on research carried out over the last 30 years at the Rheumatology and Allergy Research Unit at Birmingham University and led by the unit's director, Dr Denis Stanworth. The aim is to produce a vaccine that will stop all allergic reactions before they can start. "If it works

to maximum potential, it should be effective in every allergy," Dr John Brown, the company's finance director, says. "But that may be too much to hope for."

An allergic attack is a cascade of events which begins when the allergen — dust, pollen, food or other material — provokes the release of a class of antibodies called IgE (immunoglobulin E). The IgE antibodies then bind to mast cells, which are found in most body tissues and contain chemicals such as heparin and histamine.

The mast cells are now primed for action, like a hand grenade with the pin out. The IgE antibodies project from the surface of the cells in the shape of a Y standing vertically. Then, when the allergen makes contact with the primed cells, it forms a bridge between neighbouring IgE antibodies, provoking the cell into releasing inflammatory substances, including histamine. This is the process that causes the streaming eyes of hay fever, the wheezing of asthma, or the sudden shock of anaphylaxis.

Dr Stanworth identified a peptide just ten amino acids long within the IgE molecule which he believes is the trigger for the release of histamine. The new vaccine consists of this peptide linked to a carrier protein. Vaccination primes the immune system and trains it to produce antibodies against the peptide, which then protects the patient the next time he or she is exposed to the allergen.

The beauty of the approach is its generality: if all allergic reactions are triggered in the way Dr Stanworth believes, then all should be prevented by the vaccine. That could include asthma, allergic rhinitis, and perhaps eczema as

well as hay fever and food allergies. The potential market is enormous, so it is no surprise that Peptide Therapeutics has chosen to release the trial results at the same time as announcing that it is going public.

David Reading, chairman of the Anaphylaxis Campaign, whose daughter, Sarah, died at the age of 17 after eating a lemon meringue pie, is cautiously optimistic. "Obviously we're encouraged that the results of the initial trials are looking good. But we are keeping our feet firmly on the ground."

"We will need to see the data published, as well as the scientific thinking, so they can be assessed by peer review in the normal way. Then we will need to see extensive, properly controlled studies demonstrating that there is no potential for serious long-term side-effects. Of course, we hope and pray for miracle cures, but history teaches us caution."

Mr Higgins says that the next year will be spent perfecting the manufacture, with the aim of offering the vaccine at the beginning of 1997 to doctors treating anaphylaxis patients. If all goes well, other groups of allergy sufferers will follow.

The Anaphylaxis Campaign, PO Box 140, Fleet, Hampshire GU13 9XU.

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Rachel Kelly meets the woman director being hailed as the new Jonathan Miller

What Katie did first

Theatre goes at the RSC in Stratford last week had sore bottoms. Katie Mitchell, the director of Euripides's *The Phoenician Women*, decided to turn the upholstered seats into backless benches to mimic the discomfort of a Greek stone amphitheatre.

The gesture is typical of a director famed for her meticulous research and desire for verisimilitude. When she staged *Ghosts*, she went to Norway to study the light and Ibsen's attic bedroom. She scoured Ukraine to record local patois for *The Dybbuk*, by the Russian playwright Anski, and went to Nottingham to find out how looms work for Ernst Toller's 1923 play, *The Machine Wreckers*. Her research gives her a better understanding not only of stage directions, but also of the author's intentions.

When we met last week in Covent Garden, she was at the bar in her trademark jeans, Silk Cut in one hand, a life of Mozart in the other. Next year she is directing *Don Giovanni* for Welsh National Opera, and it is time to brush up on her composers.

She is fast becoming tomorrow's Jonathan Miller. She is fantastically productive in a range of media. She has directed for the RSC and the National, and this autumn made her television debut, directing D.H. Lawrence's *The Widowing of Mrs Holroyd*, starring Zoe Wanamaker and Colin Firth (of Mr Darcy fame). Characteristically, she first went to Lawrence's house on the outskirts of Nottingham.

Each new medium requires a gigantic learning curve, unpicking years of habits culled from the theatre. For television, for example, she had to get to grips with a moving viewpoint. "You can't cry," she says. "You might as well enjoy it."

Her success is all the more exceptional given that for centuries women have been treated as the backstage dog-bodies of drama, or restricted to acting — yet she says she has encountered no prejudice as a woman. Now 31, she is the most successful theatre director of her generation, winning this February the Arts Council Award sponsored by Prudential for theatre.

"Katie Mitchell is one of the most talented directors working in Britain, maybe even in the world today," the judges said. "Her stamp on a production is unmistakable, and re-

markable, given her five years in the profession. It is difficult to overestimate the significance her work will have."

Her success is diligence rewarded. We were at Magdalen, Oxford, together, but she did not squander any time on a relaxed student lifestyle. She took on the presidency of the Oxford University Dramatic Society and the staging of acclaimed productions at the Oxford Playhouse.

Raised in Wiltshire, the daughter of a dentist turned designer, Mitchell originally wished to be an artist. But by 16 she decided she wasn't very talented, and switched to theatre. She has been devouring plays ever since.

"I think I have been influenced by my parents' idealism and perfectionism. They are both very dynamic people. When my mother got thyroid eye disease, her response was to set up a support group for other sufferers."

After Oxford, with characteristic thoroughness she wrote to hundreds of regional theatres seeking work as an assistant, was refused, and instead read scripts and made coffee at the King's Head theatre in Islington for a pittance. She set up Classics on a Shoestring, specialising in staging unusual classics in tiny venues. Brilliant reviews, a call from the RSC, and a Winston Churchill fellowship followed. She travelled to Georgia, Russia, Poland and Lithuania.

"There's been no master-plan. I've been very lucky," she says. "I don't like conflict. I don't think I know all the answers."

Yet her idealism is passionate. She works because she believes in theatre's potential power. Artists mustn't shirk their social and political responsibilities, especially when spending taxpayers' money at the big subsidised theatre companies. "If I stopped believing that, I would stop working," she says.

"I want the theatre to make people think. Sometimes my work is described as being cool and that's because the ideas are what are interesting. Emotion is easily manufactured, but the idea is what everything must work around."

All the trappings of the theatre should contribute to its message, from the programme design to the stage settings, she feels. She repeatedly works with the set designer Vicki Mortimer, whose austere designs use wood, earth and a few well-chosen props, with authentic but plain period costumes. "Everything on a set has meaning," she says. "You can't disregard any visual references made by a playwright."

Lighting designer Tina McHugh is another frequent collaborator who provides minimal lighting: weak spring sunshine, for example, or autumnal firelight.

Is she waiting for the call from Hollywood? "I'm not interested in having my name up in lights," she says. To some, that might sound like false modesty. With Katie Mitchell, it sounds the truth.



Katie Mitchell: "I've been called cool: emotion is easily manufactured, but ideas are more interesting"

Are we as prurient as the Victorians?

In this permissive age, we have not yet freed ourselves from sexual obsessions

One of the apocryphal stories of the age is the one about the man who takes the film with photos of himself cuddling his naked baby daughter to Boots to be developed, only to find the snaps are seized, and he himself the subject of investigation by the social services. I, too, had recently heard a version: a friend of a friend (like all such stories, the protagonist is never someone we know or have actually met), was prevented from living with, even seeing his children for over half a year, after some heady-eyed film developer handed over to the police and the DSS a photograph of him in the bath with his seven-month-old daughter. Later, it was found there was no case against him, and he was allowed back home, with no apology made for the distress or offence caused him and his family.

I had always imagined that there was perhaps more fear than substance behind such tales. That may still be the case. The fact that it has happened to someone famous, so publicly, says nothing about the rate of incidence. But I fear that it will have some effect on it in the future. Somehow, it makes it seem a normal thing for film developers to snoop about, looking for evidence of child abuse, child porn or, no doubt, other suspected evils. One can imagine that film developers will start thinking that that is primarily their duty; as they assume the full moral weight of this self-appointed burden, the actual job they're being paid to carry out will start seeming secondary.

I shouldn't need to say that obviously if there were anything that looked suspicious, it should be investigated. I don't wish to comment on this particular case, but am horrified by the evidence offered by the photo lab technician who tipped off the police, and by the fact that he has since spoken to *The Sun* about it. He, he said, took "a couple" of photos of his small daughter in the bath when she was young, but "I would never have taken so many of the same photos of a girl of that age". That's proof? Of what? A middle-class extravagance with film.

But there is a wider issue, and that is the prurient climate of the age. New Victorianism is running rampant, without even the excuse that the Victorians had. In a time when sexuality is repressed, when desires are seen as the beast within us which

must be tamed, then one can understand how foetid sexual obsessiveness can come about. One sniggers at the ridiculousness now of the Victorians covering up piano legs lest they give rise to lascivious thoughts, but the atmosphere of heightened sexual tension is at least understandable given the ethos of the age.

We have no such excuse. Indeed, the greatest singular failure of the permissive age must surely be that it has not managed to free us from our obsessions and hang-ups.

We are still flummoxed about in the dark on this one. A naked child is not a dirty thing, fit only to be seen by pornographers or pervers. What kind of eye sees like that?

Now, one may take a picture of a naked child in a bathroom without having pornographic designs on her, but that isn't to deny that there is a sexual aspect to the nudity of children. It isn't a choice between innocence or depravity, it is just about accepting what is naturally there.

Puritans can never accept nature: they are necessarily hostile to, fearful of, it. It really is a bit like complaining about people whistling dirty songs: if you don't know the words you can't be offended.

But the horrid of the New Victorianism lies, I'm afraid, in the contemporary American women's movement, of which no right-thinking feminist should want any part. The latest edict from them gives the measure of its complaints are in about "data-rape". Women are being assaulted by the gibes and innuendo of men using the Internet. For a start, anyone who thinks that getting vile e-mail from vile he-males is tantamount to being raped has had a very sheltered life. The only other thing to say is lo off.

Modern feminism's fear of sex is no different from the Victorians' view of it as something that demeaned a good woman. New Victorianism sees sex as an assault against which frail women must be protected; even the mention of sex constitutes such an assault.

What is so offensive about these hot-breathed puritanical attitudes is not so much that they cramp and curtail our behaviour, so much as falsely describe it, seeing all of it as innately vile and degraded. At least the Victorians were just God-fearing; the New Victorians are perniciously life-fearing.



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Dangerous games with the law

Robert Alexander says judges are fulfilling their proper function

For politicians publicly to criticise judges for decisions which go against them is new. In the past they sometimes grumbled in private. Once, when I was advising a now deceased former minister on an appeal, he suddenly interjected: "This judge has held against me once before: is he a pinko?" But until recently, whatever the private feelings, the constitutional role of the judges was respected in public.

Fundamental to this role — as the Judges' Council is apparently telling the Home Affairs Select Committee — is the protection of the citizen against the State. Wise rulers in the past have acknowledged, and indeed encouraged, this. Queen Elizabeth I once famously said to her judges: "Have a care over my people... They are my people. Every man oppresseth them and spoileth them without mercy: they cannot revenge their quarrel, nor help themselves. See unto them, see unto them for they are my charge. I charge you even as God has charged me."

Judges have not always been robust in discharging this role. Indeed for much of this century they were largely quiescent. The lion seemed to be sleeping under the throne. But in the past 30 years it has stirred. Lord Diplock described the growth of judicial review as the great legal development of his lifetime. But the principles on which judges act are far from new. They make sure that ministers do not exceed the scope of the powers conferred on them by Parliament, and they require decent and fair administrative procedures.

Mr Justice Sedley's recent decision that the Reverend Sun Myung Moon was entitled to make representations before being refused admission to the country may have been debatable, but the principle he invoked is long established. The judges also intervene, although only very rarely, if the minister has acted in a way which shows a perverse use of his powers.

What has happened in recent years is essentially simple. Since the Second World War, governments of all complexions have intervened more widely in all areas of life. Simon Jenkins has shown in his widely admired book *Accountable to None* just how far down this centralised power now reaches. The growth of judicial review is the inevitable reaction, to ensure that there is some proper check on the way government exercises power. What the judges are doing is enforcing good government by policing the constitutional correctness of executive decisions.

Take one illustration. In this country, we had the most generous scheme of any in the world for compensating people who have suffered criminal injury. It has existed for more than 30 years under the Royal Prerogative. Parliament put it on a statutory basis in 1989, leaving the Home Secretary with discretion as to when he should bring the new statutory scheme into force.

Kenneth Clarke and then Michael Howard considered — understandably and in accordance with their rights — that it could not be sustained financially. Mr Howard proposed to introduce a new and very much reduced scheme, simply allowing the radically different proposals which had been approved by Parliament to lie on the statute book unrevoked. The House of Lords, in debate, challenged both the legality and the wisdom of the new scheme. The Home Secretary pressed ahead. The House of Lords, this time in its judicial capacity, quashed the new scheme on the grounds that the Home Secretary could not simply override a scheme which Parliament had enacted. He had to abide by the scheme or repeal it.

Mr Howard very properly responded by introducing a new statutory scheme, less clumsy and unfair than his initial proposals. He has agreed that this scheme should be the subject of wide consultation, and that his proposals and any important changes shall be laid before Parliament for approval. So the decision has led to a less unfair scheme, backed by the legitimacy of democratic control. It has contributed to good government.

No one should underestimate the stress that judicial review imposes on politicians. The outcome of such cases is often far from certain. Yet if the court decides against the minister, and the minister faithfully complies with the decision, it is portrayed as a defeat for him. But cases in which the decision of the minister is upheld are rarely so prominently reported. All this is testing, especially when politicians are as embattled as at present.

Nonetheless they would be wise to support the judiciary. To ask the public, which has not heard the facts of the case, to write commenting on judicial decisions: to point out that a particular judge has had judgments reversed on appeal before; to whisper, or more, against Nolan and Scott for carrying out their judicial inquiries — all this has happened recently, and it is a dangerous game.

A government which upholds law and order should start with respect for the judiciary. If ministers doubt the quality of some judges, let them institute an independent commission to advise the Lord Chancellor on appointments. If they feel that judges act pragmatically, let them embrace minimal constitutional reform at least by incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights. The all-party law reform group Justice has long campaigned for these changes.

Our judiciary is not corrupt. It has a high level of integrity and ability; it acts without fear or favour, and is indifferent to personal ambition. Politicians should be the first to admire and uphold these qualities. Lord Alexander of Weedon QC is chairman of Justice.

A minister once burst out: 'Is he a pinko?'



Protecting the innocents

We need precautions to safeguard children, but also to defend adults

Never was there such a weekend for nervous leadings through the family album. Just, you understand, in case the Old Bill should drop in with a search warrant and some heavy questions about the suggestive angle of that plastic duck, or the justification of showing exposed two-year-old nipples over the edge of a Mr Blooby paddling pool.

I doubt there is a camera-literate family in the land which does not harbour some spirited snaps of children without their pants on. The traditional use of these is for mothers to ruin Christmas 30 years later by getting dippy on sherry and showing the evidence to their children's fiancés. Jokes about awful pictures of babies on fur rugs are as old as the Box Brownie. P.G. Wodehouse is full of them. Appreciation of the cuddly fresh bounciness of baby bodies is one of the bonuses of that exhausting state known as parenthood. For heaven's sake, leave us that.

So a shudder of empathy ran across the nation over the affair of Boots the Chemist, Scotland Yard and the ITN newscaster. The police stoutly deny that it was they who leaked the name, but are inquiring into who did: well they might, because whoever it was has enabled great swathes of media to make the child's identity obvious.

The trouble is that the story was irresistible because it dramatises a common terror. It could be you. Or me. Ever since I was first sitting around at toddler groups with an armful of mixed infant, parental folklore has whispered that a chemist could shop you for a nude picture of a child. It seemed so ridiculous that most of us went on snapping regardless. But gradually the growing awareness of child pornography and its relation to abuse made us wary. Certain natural childish poses ring warning bells. Artists and photographers who specialise in undressed children are given a hard time by critics (in the case of Graham Ovenden, raided by the police). And since it has been noticed that child sex offenders swap babywearer catalogues in prison, retailers have grown more careful about such matters as bikinis, sunglasses, and over-the-shoulder pouts. They have. I am told, long and embarrassing conferences about it with their advertising agencies.

The eye of the beholder may be innocent, but we now accept that there are other beholders, far from

our domestic Garden of Eden where naked brass charge around with their knickers on their heads. A small minority of adults do prey on children sexually: they abuse, seduce and rape, and moreover they collect photographs, both sexually explicit and the nightmare depens — perfectly ordinary. Paedophiles can enjoy pictures even though the photographer had no sexual interest at all. In America they have been known to get jobs in photo-processing in order to make copies.

We know all this; and know too that these people may wear the mildest of sheep's clothing, as parents and step-parents, priests or teachers or babysitters. Because of this, I suspect that the onset of modesty and the strictures that "bottoms are private" usually occurs a few years earlier these days than it used to. Certainly by the age of seven or eight, you meet fathers who say they get up earlier on Saturdays at this stage, to prevent their growing daughters bouncing into bed with them. The point is that most families need no intervention by the State and the law to preserve reasonable mores, any more than most schoolteachers need to be told the difference between a sexual assault and a reassuring hug.

But walking this knife-edge, adults too need consideration from the law. If we protect children at the expense of our dignity, we deserve some protection too. Obviously, the biggest fear that haunts us is of children being taken away, of such abuses as Orkney or the just-concluded case in Pembrokeshire, where a mother was imprisoned and later discharged because the prosecution had no evidence whatsoever, and where her husband, after four years, was released last week by the appeal court as equally innocent.

But in far more minor ways too, child protection is creating hundreds of victims, and our support for it is being tested to the limit. Yet that support is vital. After being questioned, the ITN newscaster said

stoutly: "I have always supported the work of the police, which is why I co-operated so fully." Most of us would say the same, and feel that if we were innocent, the outrage would lie not in being questioned but in being identified. But we would shortly discover another outrage awaiting us: and that is, quite simply, the time the judicial process takes.

Not in jail, or on bail, they say: our legal system creaks. The medieval idea that justice should be dispensed swiftly has become buried under a mound of paperwork. Suspected shoplifters commit suicide or die of worry waiting to come to court. I know a 17-year-old charged with drug offences, who had enough time on bail to take an A level, find a flat and a job and generally alter beyond all recognition before her court date finally came up just after her 19th birthday.

She was jailed, even though she was hardly recognisable as the girl of 18 months before. I have known a schoolmaster suspended on allegations of indecency in the summer holiday who waited until December before he clapped eyes upon so much as a magistrate, and then faced the rest of the school year idle and miserable, waiting for the Crown Court to decide that the whole thing was nonsense all the time.

This is a bad situation, a hundred times worse when it involves children and the complex dynamics of a family or a school. Just think for a moment of the affectionate pupils of that long-absent schoolmaster. It is a lot to take in when you are only eight: "Am I still allowed to like him?" asked one. "When will it be sorted out?" said another. The answer is, don't hold your breath, sonny. For anyone whose acquaintance with criminal proceedings is drawn from condensed and dramatised television cop shows, the geological pace is hard to believe.

Suppose that you, totally innocent, happen to be pulled in today on

suspicion of having taken dodgy photographs or groped one of your piano pupils. You may well have a month on police bail, not sure whether charges will be brought. When they are, more weeks will pass before the magistrates do their bit: then six or eight months before a court date. Meanwhile, relations with your partner and with your children — assuming you are allowed to keep them — will be under almost intolerable strain. If your identity gets out locally (and it will), fingers will point and mention will be made of smoke without fire. You may lose your job; if you work with children, you will be suspended. The long suspension is then likely to be used by embarrassed school governors as an excuse to get rid of you even when you are cleared. "He'll be happier," they will say, "starting out fresh." Through malice or misunderstanding, your career will be ruined.

If the process were quicker, lives would be less poisoned, children less bewildered. "Let justice be done, or the world perishes." Some accused must feel that the world has had time to perish several times over while they hang around waiting for justice.

There are solutions. Chelmsford Crown Court has pioneered a "fast-track" system for all cases involving children. The agencies concerned have formally agreed to hurry things along to a fixed timetable: police and Crown Prosecution Service, social services, magistrates and Crown Court all aim to bring people to trial within four or five weeks of the charge. This benefits both defendant and children. The system is 18 months old, has its hiccups and is currently under review, but its existence at least shows a recognition of the peculiar harm and injustice of delay in these cases. Other counties are studying it. Slowly.

Fast-tracking of one category of case will no doubt mean that the poor old suspected shoplifters spend even longer in limbo, and that drunken drivers will drunkenly drive around for even more months while their victims' families suffer an unresolved mourning. But if we really can't give the whole system a massive kick up the back end, I submit that child sex cases deserve special consideration. In a relatively new field like this, overfull of theoreticians and zealots, innocents are bound to be accused. Fine. But we should not condemn them to a minute longer than necessary of suspicion and stigma.

More cash but less fuss

Woodrow Wyatt says MPs' low pay invites abuses

Corruption in the Commons is very rare. It is as nothing to the corruption in European parliaments and in the American Congress. Last night's parliamentary vote on the recommendations of the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life and of their own select committee on Nolan was never going to have any effect on the extent of parliamentary corruption — whichever way it went — and may well actually make it harder to detect.

MPs have been engaged in a public relations exercise to regain respect undeservedly lost. For too long they have been depicted in the media as a bunch of hypocrites. Francis Urquhart and his fictional colleagues are widely believed to be a typical Prime Minister and Cabinet. Consequently MPs are now generally thought to be in it for what they can get.

But irrationally mixed with contempt for MPs is a sincere admiration. Many people proudly feel: "Our MP is not like that." Being an MP is to be one of the most important persons in a large area. This is a principal reason why the queues for selection committees are so long.

Candidates, and hence all MPs, are chosen by a fairly small caucus. Electors wishing to back the party of their fancy have no choice but to vote for the candidate it presents to them. A purer form of democracy would be to hold American-style primaries, in which registered voters for each party have a variety of candidates from whom to choose. This would prevent voters of moderate outlook in Tory-winnable seats being saddled with an extreme right-winger, or an extreme left-winger in Labour-winnable seats.

On arrival at Westminster, an MP's first duty is to act as part of an electoral chamber, confirming the leader of the party successful at the poll as Prime Minister, or the leader of the next largest party as Leader of the Opposition. Owing to the whip system, the MP's decision has been pre-empted.

The founders of the American Constitution saw the President as the successor of George III. The King's ministers were his placemen in Parliament through whom he sought to exert control. So the President's ministers cannot be in Congress, which has considerable power to frustrate or support the President and his Cabinet and Administration, none of whom is a member of Congress, though they can be summoned by it and have their appointments overturned. Thus congressional committees have enormous significance. They give all members of both Houses of Congress serious jobs to do.

In Britain, Commons select committees are chosen by the Government and Opposition, and their reports, if not to the Government's liking, can be readily brushed aside, though many are excellent. Select committees exhibit the trappings of power, but in practice have little. So how are government supporters in the Commons who are not actually part of the Government and have not made even the first lowly step towards it by becoming parliamentary private secretaries, to make worthwhile use of their time? And what about Opposition members who are not in the Shadow Cabinet?

These members can speak in debates, if they are lucky enough to be called, or ask questions, or deal with constituents' worries, many of which should be handled by local councillors. They can go on parliamentary visits abroad. But they cannot assign many hours to outside jobs when Parliament is sitting, unless they are lawyers or in occupations conducted at times which do not clash with parliamentary hours.

The Tories have more MPs who are accustomed to living in the style of high earners than Labour, although socialist aspirations are increasing too. But this is the land of the envious, where the public cannot abide MPs or ministers having rates of pay comparable to those of senior executives in industry. MPs are being too bashful in setting their basic pay at around £30,000, and too devious in adding various allowances to knock up a few thousand more. They worry too much about the headline figure, because they worry too much about the headlines. Restricted by Nolan supervisors and codes of conduct, they should now be bold and award themselves salaries of £100-120,000 a year, to be increased in line with inflation. This would alleviate the temptation to offer their services in unsuitable ways.

And the Government, by agreement with the Opposition, should set up select committees with the function of constantly examining the great departments of state. These committees would be in regular contact with civil servants, as well as the ministers they serve, with the aim of controlling and cutting expenditure and shaping policies on which there is little inter-party dispute.

This would eliminate many of the boring postures adopted by politicians pretending to profound disagreements with one another despite there being little difference between them. Knockabout politics can be fun, but there would be more respect for the Commons if we saw less of it.

Black mark

THE NEW Editor of *The Spectator*, Frank Johnson, may have a very short innings.

He is said to have received a blistering letter from the magazine's owner, Conrad Black, demanding an unreserved apology for the remarks in his first issue about his predecessor, Dominic Lawson, who left to edit *The Sunday Telegraph*.

The remarks Black found offensive were written by Alan Clark, the splenetic former minister, who said in *The Spectator* that Lawson had "loathsome sneering features, pastily glistening", which "peer slit-eyedly out at the reader".

Johnson said he had not yet read the missive: "I am told there is such a letter," he said. "It may be here but I've been in Ireland."

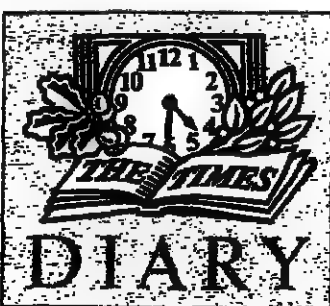
Dominic Lawson contacted Johnson before Alan Clark's diary was printed to express his concern. Johnson nevertheless went ahead with the rant, and two columnists on the magazine are now considering their position because they found it offensive. "Alan Clark is Alan Clark," said Johnson in his defence. "You can't tame what he writes. You either get

nothing or you get the whole beast."

Germany's larger-than-life Euro-Commissioner for industry, Martin Bangemann, yesterday dismissed with a shrug of his tautonic shoulders the rebuke from Danish Commissioner Ritt Bjerregaard in her diary which reveals that he frequently misses official meetings. "It is always the



"You might say that, but I couldn't possibly comment"



case that once a woman gets to know me," Bangemann said, "she wants to see me more often." Sir Leon Brittan heard him and burst into giggles.

Unblushing

HER SERENE PINKNESS — Dame Barbara Cartland — has an unlikely fan: Colonel Gaddafi. News of the colonel's romantic leanings come from Christina Foyle, the octogenarian managing director of Foyle's bookshop in Charing Cross Road.

"Colonel Gaddafi is one of our best customers," says Christina. "And his favourite author is Dame Barbara Cartland."

The queen of romance takes the news in her stride. "I'm delighted of course, but I'm not surprised. You see, out there they are roman-

tics at heart and he probably didn't have a lot of love in his childhood," she explains. "I'm going to send him my most romantic novel and sign it with love."

Good life

PAUL EDDINGTON was a regular at Quaker meetings, not least because he described them as "a breath of fresh air". But the actor, who died this week, had a very different reason for attending the Westminster Meeting House every Tuesday and Thursday.

Eddington often met up with Sir Anthony Hopkins, who used to attend Alcoholics Anonymous in the same building on the same night. At the end of their respective sessions, the two actors would stand side by side at the kitchen sink, chatting and washing dishes, before sitting down to a full plate of egg mayonnaise sandwiches and a cup of tea.

Barry Porter, MP, has been battered by allegations that he agreed in principle to accept £1,500 to arrange meetings with a minister. And he does appear to have been in a sling. "I fell down in the morning, very early in the morning, and dislocated my shoulder against the kitchen cabinet," he ex-



Sewell's corner: his own little preserve

plains. Or did he say Kitchen Cabinet?

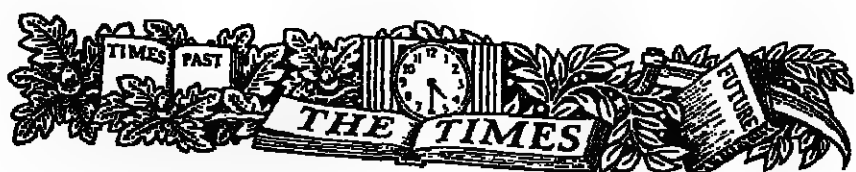
Tanked up

HAVING failed to put a stop to the antics of our more outrageous artists, Brian Sewell has decided to join them. He has been pickled in formaldehyde.

Earlier this year, Sewell changed

his will to bequeath his eyes to a rival critic. Now the uncompromising critic has used technical wizardry to embalm his head for the front cover of his new book *An Alphabet of Villains*, a compilation of his writings. "I've just joined the shark and the sheep," he draws. "I think Damien Hirst has become such a clown."

P.H.S.



AFTER RABIN

Peres should be guided by his predecessor's memory

A gunman's bullets may have ended the life of Yitzhak Rabin, but they have not extinguished the torch of peace which Israel's dead statesman tended for his people. That flame has now passed to the grasp of other men. Those men are in mourning, but they are not in disarray. They may be beset by grief, but they are not irresolute. Mr Rabin may have been irreplaceable, but he has been replaced. Israel is emotional: it is also resilient.

The leadership has passed to Shimon Peres, who has been Prime Minister before. But Israel was then a different place, at war with its neighbours, a battered land in search of tranquillity. The country wears a changed face today: the peace accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation has transformed its beliefs and expectations, as well as those of the Middle East region. And if Mr Rabin was the cautious architect of this peace, Mr Peres was its inspired draughtsman. The two worked in tandem, sometimes abrasively: now one will have to do the work of two.

Mr Rabin was buried yesterday on Mount Herzl, and the nation's thoughts will return eventually from the trauma of mourning to the bluster of routine. But his death at the hands of a Jewish opponent of peace — and the many agonising questions which it raises — will influence the shape of Israel's politics in more than just the medium term. As the man who shot his country's leader has shown, Israel bears a violent tension in its soul — a tension which the march of peace has only served to heighten. Yet the process of peace, it scarcely needs emphasising, will outlast Mr Rabin's extinguished life: in death, he has imparted the fibre of endurance to his tenacious belief in peace and reconciliation. It falls now to Mr Peres to consolidate Mr Rabin's project.

What is the best way for him to do so? The most obvious answer — as well as the most judicious one — is that Mr Peres should change nothing. There is no profit to be gained from tampering with Israel's complex political calendar. This includes both the timetable of the accord with Yasser Arafat's PLO as well as the schedule for the country's parliamentary elections in November next year.

The opponents of peace with the PLO — and of a wider peace within the region — are now on the defensive. That includes, of course, the opposition Likud party. Mr Rabin's killer may have had nothing to do with the Likud, or with any other party for that matter; but so powerful is the revulsion that his actions have provoked in Israel, and so great the outpouring of sympathetic emotion at Mr Rabin's death, that a considerable degree of restraint will now be thrust upon those who oppose the dead Prime Minister's programme.

Mr Peres must derive from that restraint a new momentum for the peace process. To hold elections now would only be to fritter away that momentum. An early election would also raise uncomfortable questions for the ruling coalition: is Mr Peres the ideal man to lead the Government at the polls? Would his idealism, unclouded by Mr Rabin's outspoken commitment to his country's security, prove to be an electoral liability?

These questions cannot yet be answered accurately. But this is certainly not the time to pose them. Mr Peres is in charge: the opponents of peace are as benumbed today as those Israelis who believe that the pursuit of peace should now acquire a new urgency. The memory of Mr Rabin, and of everything for which he died, should guide the Israeli Government in all that it does.

LOWER AND LOWER

A bad day for the reputation of ministers and parliament

The standing of the House of Commons was low yesterday morning; it had risen only a little by the evening. Last night's vote to disclose the amount that MPs are paid by consultants, lobbyists and their clients showed a welcome acknowledgement of the extent to which the public has lost trust in Parliament. But the only winners will be Opposition MPs. The Government's determination to resist disclosure will compound the unhealthy cynicism that already afflicts voters' attitudes to Tory politicians.

The divorce between politicians and the world outside was in stark evidence. Not until an hour into the debate, in Ann Taylor's last sentence, was the public reputation of Parliament mentioned by a main speaker. Barely anyone outside the House of Commons disputes that MPs' activities should be more transparent. Yet so insular is the institution that far too many of its primary figures were prepared to ignore the strength of feeling against their cosy arrangements. Elected to serve the people, they apparently feel justified in putting their pecuniary interests above those of their voters.

It took the intervention of John Biffen, a famously independent-minded former Leader of the House, to bring Members' minds back to the real issue. "The public mood has moved on," he reminded them. "There is outside a powerful mood of anxiety about how we perform." And, he added, there is a change in the general climate of society. Publicly quoted companies are already starting to publish the salaries of their directors; so had the House not voted for disclosure, MPs who were also company directors would have had the part of their income that was not relevant to their job made public while the income that was relevant would have remained secret.

Tony Newton, as Leader of the House,

made an unpersuasive attempt to justify his opposition to the Nolan recommendations on disclosure. It would be impossible, he claimed, to draw a line between fees that MPs earned because they were MPs and income that did not relate to their positions. Yet a line was already to be drawn, since contracts that MPs enter into that are relevant to their jobs will have to be vetted by the new Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards. All that will now need to be added will be the pay.

Mr Newton sounded Jesuitical because his case was so weak. What he could not tell the House was that political expediency was his main guide. Many Tory MPs blame John Major for having set up the Nolan committee in the first place: their opposition to its recommendations was an important factor in the Prime Minister's weakness in the spring and early summer. So Mr Major felt obliged to dilute the committee's recommendations in order to save his own skin.

He could instead have shown some leadership. His aim in calling the leadership election in June was to reassess his authority. Having won, he should have warned his party that it would suffer grievously at the polls if it did not submit to the type of open and accountable reform that the Conservative Government has imposed on almost every other institution in the country.

Instead, the result of last night's vote is a Labour Party that can now claim the moral high ground and a Tory party that will sink even lower in public esteem. Mr Major's inability to take unpopular decisions will have been noted and held against him. And any credit that he won for setting up Nolan will be lost. The parties that can now claim a political dividend for the reform of parliamentary behaviour will be those on the other side of the House.

NONE OF OUR BUSINESS

And yet we do have an interest in who wins the Booker Prize

Does it matter who wins the Booker Prize for fiction tonight? Well, it depends whom you ask. It matters to the authors: there is extra fame and fortune for almost any writer whose works carry the red flash "Booker Prize Winner". Ditto for the publishers: does the Booker matter to Macmillan, Cape or Viking? Does a dog bark, does David Hockney do swimming pools, do muggers go for a Rolex, does the editorial director want to be in work next year?

For the judges too it matters — like a mad itch matters. Once upon a time, when the prize was young and twee, the deliberators' deliberations were more secret than a Cabinet committee's. In those days, you may recall, Cabinet committees did not officially exist. But today, judges eke out their stipend just like junior politicians by pouring all over the papers: we can already report on what they drank this year (champagne), where they met (the Savile Club), and how they feel ("I really might throw a tantrum if a book I loathe looks like winning").

Does it matter to the rest of us? Not every year. All five shortlisted novels for 1995 have virtues of story-telling, teaching and magic-making that add to the sum of what has gone in novels before. Each, in the argot of this evening, would be a worthy winner. Fiction itself is the living art of which the British can be most proud. But that does not mean we need an annual champion or that the policy of *The Times* should be to care who the champion should be.

And yet, we do care. This year the judges could choose several good stories and at least one novel, Pat Barker's *The Ghost Road*, which teaches us profoundly of its subject in the way that only the best novels can teach. None of the shortlist is a sham or obvious compromise. And yet...

For 1995 the judges have the chance to choose a novel, which more than any work for many, many years, exemplifies that part of the novelist's art that is bigger than teaching or tale-telling. Salman Rushdie wrote *The Moor's Last Sigh* in conditions that make the air chill. The very word-processing of his work about family identities, national identities and the place of man in time was an act of courageous concentration. While the security men guarded and the Ayatollah's emissaries flitted in and out, the writer wrote his jokes and spun his webs.

But he should not win his second Booker Prize for judgment and bravery, qualities which it is our normal business to praise in this column. He should win it for the reason that is most precisely none of our business, for his creation of a new, fresh-baked, never-before-seen world that is as far as possible from the stuff of fact and opinion. Mr Rushdie has made true magic in this year's Booker contender. He has truly deceived. He has done more than has any of his rivals, if rivals is how we must see them. He has commanded things that are not and have never been and has made them things that are and will be for ever.

Much found wanting in the divorce reform controversy

From Mrs Janet Walker

Sir, Amidst the last-minute attempts by some MPs to get the proposals for divorce reform dropped from the Queen's Speech (report, November 3), Simon Jenkins's informed and balanced article ("Divorced from reality", November 1) was very welcome.

As director of the centre which has conducted much of the research on mediation and post-divorce family life over the past ten years, it has been particularly disappointing to see the divorce reform debate reduced to emotive and ill-informed moral panic.

Just in case anyone is in doubt there is abundant evidence that the present law has failed to meet its dual objectives of supporting marriages which have a chance of survival and the decent burial, with the minimum of embarrassment, humiliation and bitterness, of those that are dead.

The divorce rate has shot up since 1969 and many thousands of couples find themselves locked into bitter conflict not just during divorce but long afterwards, to the detriment of everyone concerned, especially children.

Our research shows plainly just how painful divorce is, how extremely difficult couples find it to achieve co-operative post-divorce relationships which offer children the continued love and security they need from both parents, and how ill-prepared most couples are for the loneliness, financial struggles, resentment and bitter disputes which so frequently characterise life after divorce and which may undermine subsequent attempts to create new stable relationships.

Since there appears to be universal agreement that legislation needs to change, if we are serious in the intent to support marriage and family life, then it seems extraordinary not to welcome the opportunity for extensive debate which would be guaranteed during the passage of a divorce reform Bill.

Surely this is the best forum within which to consider current concerns and to deliberate the merits of the proposed changes, particularly as the last occasion on which substantial government time was given to the thorny issue of marriage breakdown was 1857 (leading article, November 6).

Yours faithfully,
JANET WALKER (Director),
Relate Centre of Family Studies,
University of Newcastle,
Clarendon Bridge,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU,
November 3.

From the President of the Law Society
Sir, The letter from the Tavistock Marital Studies Institute and others (November 2) gives a false impres-

sion. No one is objecting to the Government's divorce proposals on the ground that the existing system is satisfactory. On the contrary, the present system is profoundly objectionable because it allows divorce too easily. The social and financial consequences of this are all too evident.

Will the Government's proposals have the effect of reinforcing the institution of marriage? It is argued that they will because of the proposed "period of reflection" between the commencement of the proceedings and the grant of the decree. It must be said yet again that this period of reflection is nothing of the sort, because during its currency the parties would be conducting their disputes over children, property and income, just as they do at the moment.

The Government attempts to sell its "reforms" on the ground that they would involve an increased use of "mediation", "conciliation" etc. No one should be deceived by this. The reality will be one or two formal sessions attended sullenly by unwilling parties.

There is indeed an urgent need for divorce reform, but not down this path.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN MEARS,
President,
The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2,
November 2.

From Mrs Avril Links

Sir, Simon Jenkins praises mediation in that it helps people "reach a settlement without having to go through the adversarial process of hiring separate lawyers". Implicit in his remark is the assumption that the adversarial system is a bad one. This is not necessarily true.

In times of conflict it is comforting to have someone "on your side" who will hear your story and give help and advice based on your best interests. Marriages are very secret places and it is often a tremendous relief to have someone to speak to, fully, frankly — and in confidence, often after years of abuse and violence adeptly hidden from neighbours. In many relationships one partner is dominant and the other acquiesces through apathy or fear.

Whereas the mediator's task is to help the parties to achieve a settlement, the solicitor is partisan. He has a duty to act in his client's best interests and, by ensuring that any settlement reached is fair to his client, he will protect the weak from exploitation by the strong.

Mediation must certainly have a place in divorce, but it should be as an

"optional extra" after independent advice on rights and obligations has been obtained, not a compulsory first step.

Lord Mackay's proposals are not aimed at helping those who divorce but are rather yet another of his misguided attempts to save money by emasculating the legal profession and depriving the vulnerable of independent legal representation.

Yours faithfully,
A. LINKS
(Senior Lecturer in Law),
Manchester Metropolitan University,
Elizabeth Gaskell Campus,
Haversage Road, Manchester 13,
November 3.

From Mr Wrio Russell

Sir, My and my wife's recent divorce proceedings were, naturally, painful. We felt we were quite capable of handling the matters for settlement under the guidance of one good lawyer but we were told that the proceedings had to be of necessity adversarial, with two representing lawyers.

This introduced an element of extra conflict which was particularly stressful for my young wife, even though she was compassionately guided through the proceedings.

When I thanked my lawyer for finding such a suitable representative for my wife, he replied that this colleague of his was one of only a handful of divorce lawyers in London whom he could trust. It would seem that there are too many perpetuating the painful conflict of divorce proceedings on behalf of their clients in order to line their own pockets.

Would Lord Mackay's proposals not make it less likely for such legal sleaze to occur?

Yours sincerely,
WRIO RUSSELL,
88 Cambridge Street, SW1,
November 6.

From Mrs Charlotte Horsfield

Sir, It is perhaps ironic that as divorce becomes easier and more user-friendly the less likelihood there is of couples going through the ritual of marriage; for if marriage is not a binding contract and if it does not provide either status or legal protection for spouses and their offspring any better than that given to the informal liaison, then there can be little point in getting married other than as an excuse for having a party.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLOTTE HORSFIELD,
24 Liverpool Road,
Kingston Hill, Surrey,
November 1.

tables or a desire for publicity. Rather, we appeal because justice has not been done. Any teacher, whether in the state or the independent sector, would want to do likewise.

In the case of my own department an appeal to the Northern Board in September 1994 about English literature results produced a five-month-long correspondence which eventually confirmed our suspicions: 36 of our 91 candidates had been given the wrong grades.

In such cases it is in everyone's interest that re-marking is done quickly and efficiently, particularly as a wrong grade may well force an irreversible change to a student's plans for A level.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN PATTISON
(Head of English),
Wolverhampton Grammar School,
Compton Road,
Wolverhampton, West Midlands.

School class sizes

From Mr James Norrish

Sir, As a primary school teacher in the Middle East, I read with interest and alarm your report (October 25) on the percentage of UK primary pupils in classes of 40 or more.

I teach in a friendly, comfortable, well resourced and stress-free environment. My pupils are well motivated. I receive full backing from parents, governors and head. My salary and conditions of service are excellent. I really do enjoy my work. I have 13 in my class.

And friends and former colleagues still ask if I intend returning to the UK to teach.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES NORRISH,
c/o The English School,
PO Box 379, 13004 Safat, Kuwait,
November 1.

From Mr Robert Rhodes, QC

Sir, The Government is passing an Act to increase the remission of sentence that convicted terrorists in Northern Ireland will receive (report, October 31). This proposed reduction in the length of sentence they serve is said to be an important contribution to the peace process.

Perhaps somebody could explain why Mr Michael Howard's proposal to reduce remission of sentence (and hence to increase the length of sentence served) in English prisons will make us all safer in our beds in this country.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT RHODES,
Littleton Building,
3 King's Bench Walk North,
Temple, EC4,
November 2.

Mismanagement in the wilderness

From Mr Stephen Samuelson

Sir, In his article, "There is no such thing as a natural world" (October 30), Stephen Budiansky depicts environmentalists as hopeless romantics. He then tries to make a case for the human "management" of wilderness areas.

I don't recognise in his descriptions any environmentalist that I know or have read. Of course nature is always changing, but everywhere man has gone the rate of change has been enormously accelerated and distorted, resulting in the creation of deserts and the reduction of bio-diversity.

That some American Indians set brush fires supports my argument, not his. Management is usually a euphemism for short-sighted, cash-handed exploitation of the environment.

It's no good blaming elk for a reduction in trees and beaver. We know where most of the beaver went: before Europeans got stuck into North America wolves kept down the elk population, trees flourished and beaver were so numerous they became the basis of a whole new fashion industry.

Budiansky says that "glaciers have repeatedly wiped clean millions of square miles of the landscape." Is he suggesting that we therefore have an excuse to do the same, or do the "natural managers" have a plan to stop them? The Earth's forests are being destroyed by humans to a greater extent and at a faster rate than glaciers ever did.

He says he bites his tongue when listening to nature lovers. Perhaps he could bite his fingers instead, to keep him from writing.

Yours sincerely,
STEPHEN SAMUELSON,
4 Mount Idol View,
Bedhill-on-Sea, East Sussex,
October 30.

From the Reverend Eric Raygor

Sir, I lived for 24 years in the de-glaciated state of Pennsylvania. Stephen Budiansky's article omitted one important detail.

True, wildlife management is essential, now that most American ecosystems have been deprived of a chief predator (eg, mountain lion, grey wolf). But the root of the problem lies not in nature fostering too many herbivores but in humanity's elimination of the carnivores.

The explosion of the Yellowstone elk population is due mainly to the reduction of its natural range and, more important, the elimination about a hundred years ago of the wolf from the region. This has impelled park rangers and hunters to assume the role of chief predator. Perhaps, now that the wolf is being reintroduced, some balance may be restored.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC RAYGOR,
St Andrew's Methodist Church,
Herongate,
1 Emanuel Road,
Langdon Hills, Basildon, Essex,
November 1.

Ostrich farming

From Mrs Robyn Wright

Sir, Mr Philip Lymbery, from Compassion in World Farming (letter, November 1), asks that the welfare of ostriches in the infant farming industry be "fully thought through".

He refers to them as "giant birds", saying they are "potentially difficult to handle". They are no more giant than a cow, and certainly more graceful, inquisitive and human-loving; I would say handling them is easier than handling a bull.

As for being "easily frightened", if birds are stressed or unhappy they do not lay and become an uneconomic proposition.

Ostrich farmers are unusual among farmers in that they are required to have their facilities and husbandry competence checked by a qualified vet and licensed yearly. Thus we have an industry better controlled in terms of welfare than most more established forms of animal farming.

Yours faithfully,
ROBYN WRIGHT,
Mill Farm,
Woburn Sands,
Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire,
November 2.

Many happy returns

From Mr P. H. Tray

Sir, Perhaps it would cheer up Mrs Nicky Phillips (letter, November 3) to learn that a local shop stocks three designs of 100th birthday cards.

Yours faithfully,
PETER TRAY,
707 High Road, Finchley, N12,
November 3.

Room at the top

From Mr Christopher Alderson

Sir, When does a model become a supermodel? Who decides?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER ALDERSON,
121 Handside Lane,
Welwyn Garden City,
Hertfordshire,
November 3.

Prison questions

From Mr Quentin Palmer

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Dyer (November 4), bemoans the declining emphasis placed on rehabilitation within the Prison Service.

Yet he writes as a prison inmate and refers to his experiences "over the years" in many prisons.

Rehabilitation?

Yours sincerely,
QUENTIN PALMER,
83 Gallows Hill,
Kings Langley, Hertfordshire,
November 3.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Manager of the month accesses the Internet to keep abreast of Premiership news

Surfing the Net to ride the crest of a wave

You don't have to spend a lifetime in the dugout to acquire the winning touch in Interactive Team Football (ITF). Mark Sladden, the latest winner of the £500 prize for manager of the month, gained an impressive 90 points in October, thanks largely to his use of the latest computerised communication methods. He accessed the Internet — the Information Super Highway — as the road to ITF riches.

Success in the ITF is not bad going for a man who has never supported a club, has never been to a professional game and, until the beginning of the season, could name only a handful of players. Last year he dabbled in fantasy football, getting involved in the internal league at work. "It was only through hearing friends at work talking about it that I started, but now I'm in the ITF I follow it religiously every week," he said.

But, in the ITF, Mr Sladden is learning fast to keep tabs on every player at every club. He uses the Internet to pick up the gen on who has been booked, who is injured and who is likely to be playing in each fixture. "I was going to drop Julian Dicks on Friday because I thought his ban was due to start on Saturday, but then I saw he was available to play until November 6 so he stayed in and will be dropped this week instead," he said.

Friday's transfers earned a few more points with Mr Sladden dropping Alex Ferguson in favour of Kevin Keegan and brought in Mike Newell for Paul Scholes. "I didn't think Scholes would score against Arsenal so he had to go, but he will be back again this week," he said.

No player is guaranteed a season-long run with Mr Sladden's squad, although David Seaman looks the likeliest contender. He decided from the start that a strong defence was the most profitable investment and although Dicks is on his way out for the moment, Cox, Wright and Adams have all been good points-winners.



IN ASSOCIATION WITH



In midfield, Jamie Redknapp has replaced White and lines up alongside McAllister, Ginola and Hignett. Only the strikers have been a cause for concern. For the first eight weeks Mr Sladden stuck with Marco Boogers, who actually managed to lose him three points. Scholes comes back in for Newell and will join Danny Dichio up front.

Mr Sladden, a computer systems manager from Maidenhead, is impressed with the speed with which his transfers are registered in the ITF. His winning team, Adam's Sneakers, is one of three he entered.

"When I started I just wanted to make it into the top 250 — being manager of the month is a huge bonus," he said.

Mr Sladden's team, Adam's Sneakers, comprises: David Seaman (Arsenal); Julian Dicks (West Ham United); Neil Cox (Middlesbrough); Mark Wright (Liverpool); Tony Adams (Arsenal); Gary McAllister (Leeds United); Jamie Redknapp (Liverpool); David Ginola (Newcastle United); Craig Hignett (Middlesbrough); Paul Scholes (Manchester United); Danny Dichio (Queens Park Rangers). The manager is Alex Ferguson, of Manchester United.

If your team could be doing better, with your players lacking form and fitness, you can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. ITF has a transfer system which allows you to change up to two players each week. Which player you want to offload and who you replace him with is up to you, although you must replace the outgoing player with one from the same category (ie, a full back with a full back) and keep within your £35 million budget.

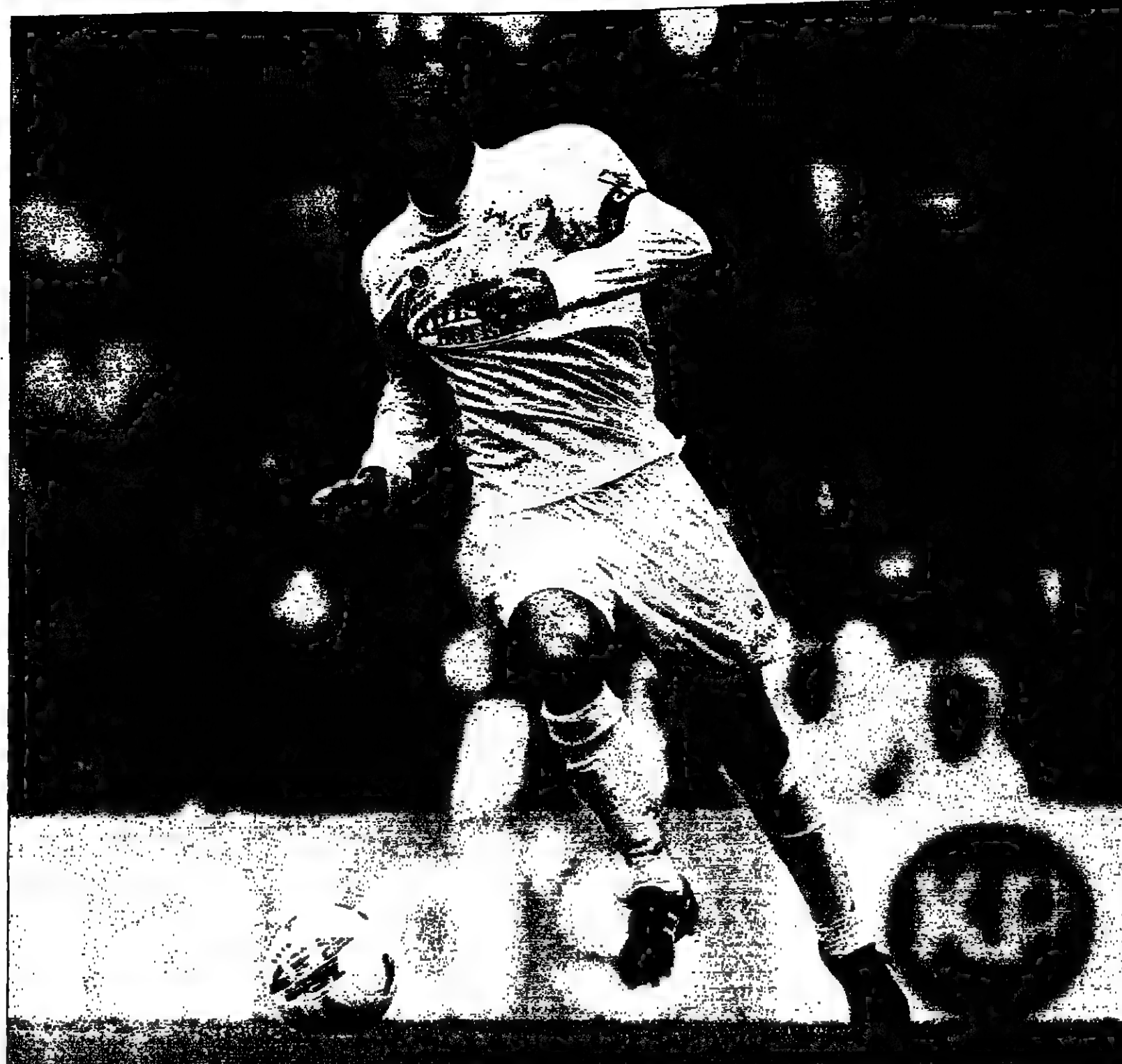
The ITF transfer system also allows you to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership, or to select any overseas or Endsleigh Insurance League players who move into the Premiership.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 333 331 line during the times given. Calls will be charged at 39 pence per minute cheap rate, 49 pence per minute at other times. If you are calling from the Republic of Ireland, you must call 004 499 020 0631 and you will be charged 58 pence per minute.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the £50,000 prize or the monthly £500 prizes.

All matches in the Premiership and those in the FA Cup involving Premiership clubs count. And your players and manager win and lose you points. With Kevin Kickers continuing to set the pace, it is time for you to delve into the transfer market?

All transfer queries regarding Interactive Team Football should be directed to 0171 757 7016. For all other general enquiries please use 01532 488 122.



Gary McAllister, of Leeds United, is one of English football's outstanding midfield players and plays a pivotal role in Adam's Sneakers

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All FA Carling Premiership and FA Cup matches in the 1995-96 season count for points. Every goal and penalty counts

POINTS SCORED			
Goalkeeper		Striker	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scored goal	2pts
Scored goal	3pts	All players	
Full back/Central defender		Appearance†	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Manager	
Scored goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt

Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Score's goal	2pts		
POINTS DEDUCTED			
Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Score's own goal	1pt
All players		Manager	
Sent off	3pts	Team losses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 333 331

Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times. Rep. 58p
If calling from the Republic of Ireland, call 004 499 020 0631

You can make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your two-digit selector's PIN, which must be typed in and not spoken. Follow the simple instructions and use the players' five-digit codes.

The line is open from 8am on Tuesday until 11am on Saturday; from 6pm on Saturday to 11am on Sunday and from 6pm on Sunday until 3pm on Monday. If there are midweek matches, the line will also close at 3pm on the day of the match (or matches) and re-open the following day at 6am.

You may make up to (but no more than) two transfers a week. Each transfer is a separate transaction and you must sell a player before you can buy one.

A player transferred out of your team must be replaced by a player from the same category — for example a full back for a full back.

When purchasing a player you must ensure that the team value still falls within your £35 million budget (even if your next transfer would result in an overspend) and does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The score of the player transferred out is taken at the time of transfer; he then ceases to score for you.

Player out	Player code
Club	
Player in	
Club	

THE WEEK'S TRANSFERS IN ITF

Code	Player	IN Club	Value
41907	Juninho	Middlesbrough	£5.0
50805	Halsey	Queens Park Rangers	£2.0

There are no transfers out of the ITF game this week

THE LEADING 250 SELECTORS IN INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pos	Team	(Player's name)
1	Kevine Kickers	(K James)	251	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
2	Woolwich Bears	(S. Cozens)	252	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
3	Basford United	(P. Sullivan)	253	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
4	London's Longhorns	(C. London)	254	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
5	James Boys Str	(M. Jones)	255	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
6	Jessica Darlings 4	(Mr A. Nadson)	256	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
7	Psychic TV	(T. Vardy)	257	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
8	Al's Alcorans	(A. Hancock)	258	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
9	Teddy Five	(Mr B. Bear)	259	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
10	Twilight United	(P. Doherty)	260	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
11	The Subjunctors	(M. Ames)	261	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
12	Nights Right Foot	(R. D. Patel)	262	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
13	Madrid Knights	(R. Jenkinson)	263	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
14	Slaves Lions 5	(S. Brewer)	264	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
15	Rosedale Rangers	(Mr D. Green)	265	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
16	Tommy Cockles XI	(Mr P. Johnson)	266	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
17	Belmont Rangers	(Mr D. Crowe)	267	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
18	Gothic Gods 85	(Mr W. Gurney)	268	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
19	Moon Machine	(Ramesh Patel)	269	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
20	The Young Gulls	(S. Shepherd)	270	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
21	The Premier Raiders 1	(Miss C. Elia)	271	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
22	Graveland Stars	(K. Brown)	272	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
23	Harrington Infer	(Mr D. Lovell)	273	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
24	Finnity Flyers	(A. Norton)	274	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
25	Burnell Rangers	(P. Sullivan)	275	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
26	Tyres Blue Noses	(Mr S. Tye)	276	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
27	Gary Pearce	(G. D. Pearce)	277	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
28	Slaves Lions 7	(S. Brewer)	278	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
29	Transporter	(A. Jenkinson)	279	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
30	Watling Warriors	(P. Shanks)	280	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
31	Gary's Heroes	(J. Simpson)	281	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
32	Peppercorn	(K. Booth)	282	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
33	The Good Bad & Ugly	(L. Wilson)	283	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
34	Long Live The Queen	(J. Hurd)	284	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
35	Seaside Bouncers	(A. James)	285	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
36	Power House	(G. Foster)	286	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
37	Hull Red Devils	(S. Dely)	287	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
38	Incetta	(S. Dely)	288	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
39	Jeonmond 1888	(S. Murray)	289	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
40	Wicham Off Fens	(S. Adams)	290	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
41	No Defence Ok	(J. Portwood)	291	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
42	Phyco And Smith	(K. Booth)	292	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
43	Francis Caldwell FC	(F. Caldwell)	293	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
44	Waters Wanderers	(Waters Wanderers)	294	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
45	Chine	(R. Matthews)	295	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
46	MI Blues	(P. Harden)	296	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
47	Robbo's Army	(P. Callaghan)	297	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
48	They're Here	(Mr P. Johnson)	298	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
49	Seaside Bouncers	(D. Ready)	299	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
50	Walsham AFC	(Mr D. Walsh)	300	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
51	The UK Brewers	(J. Elkins)	301	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
52	Slaves Lions	(H. Basher)	302	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
53	Glow In The Dark	(J. Smith)	303	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
54	Mac United	(T. McCloskey)	304	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
55	Edgemoor United	(R. Edmondson)	305	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
56	Dreamer Fifth	(Mr G. Wesson)	306	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
57	Oh There It Is	(P. Jones)	307	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
58	Newcastle Wanderers FC	(S. Lee)	308	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
59	Newcastle Browns 2	(B. MacLennan)	309	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
60	Partisans	(E. Donald)	310	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
61	Kia Uls	(R. Patterson)	311	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
62	The Celtic Editors	(Mr S. Hughes)	312	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
63	Fair Fair Flapjacks	(C. Woodward)	313	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
64	Squad 4	(P. Hyman)	314	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
65	Fudgels Fudgers	(I. Abu Helleh)	315	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
66	Sevens Legal	(M. Moore)	316	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
67	Malcolm Hale XI	(C. Wilcox)	317	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
68	Barnet FC	(Mr P. Johnson)	318	Stoke City	(S. Brown)
69	Bora In Tashkent	(Mr D. McMahon)	319	Stoke City	(S. Brown)

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING

Call the ITF hotline on 0891 774 796

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your two-digit selector's PIN. The line is open from noon today

107	Kevine Kickers	(G. Sutton)	206	The Butler	(S. Limerick)
108	Taylor Cooks	(J. Taylor)	207	Chumporia	(T. Hibbs)
109	Wallace Wanderers	(M. Haugh)	208	SF's Lads	(S. James)
110	Chipmunks	(Mrs S. Hancock)	209	The Mc Menemys	(I. Broadsmith)
111	Partisan Beagrod I	(Mr D. Stojkovic)	210	Indebtedness	(Mr A. Sikora)
112	The Cutting Edge	(Mr A. Weston)	211	Al-Joul Fox	(Mr J. Reader)
113	Winnies Baiters	(Mr P. Johnson)	212	Map II	(M. Priestley)
114	James Boys Str	(L. Jones)	213	Winnies Baiters	(D. Bowdler)
115	Beardley's Hair	(Mr P. Johnson)	214	The Tazman Cornish 2	(Mr P. Ashoka)
116	The Talent	(S. Cole)	215	Systems Toolback	(A. Prosser)
117	On Nifty Evans	(Mr P. Johnson)	216	Dwynys Dribblers	(A. Philcox)
118	Carl's Holdings	(C. Carmichael)	217	Jason Lee United	(Mr J. Thomas)
119	No Fear Uls	(G. Saunders)	218	Strike FC	(A. Koutsoules)
120	Rowers FC	(D. Summerhill)	219	Egerton Park	(D. Rhodes)
121	Goal Diggers	(C. Stacey)	220	Oliver	(Mr M. Stalek)
122	The French De	(C. E. Youds)	221	Gulls Galore	(S. Lawton)
123	Narcou	(G. Bahadji)	222	Wardens Wanderers	(S. Warden)
124	Inter Red Dragon	(D. Williams)	223	G Force	(W. Gayle)
125	Good Work Follies	(J. Cook)	224	Novocastrians	(E. Donald)
126	The Black Knights	(R. Green)	225	PSV Winothen	(D. Heycock)
127	Hot God A Chess	(M. Clark)	226	Easton Forgers	(Mr Davidson)
128	Abyssinians	(Mr A. Tyrann)	227	Stand Cl	(S. Brewer)
129	Millers Reserves	(Mr J. Davies)	228	Stevens Lions 2	(Mr B. O'Sullivan)
130	Synthetic Dozens	(Mr D. Donaldson)	229	Nell's Noddies	(R. Greenhalgh)
131	FC Wombles	(A. Williams)	230	Glenwood FC	(K. Hickbottom)
132	Len's Uls	(N. Laine)	231	Portle Parthenes	(C. Sims)
133	Tiggers Two	(L. Lidstrom)	232	Chie's Athletics	(T. Shepherd)
134	Diogenes	(L. Booth)	233	Shap's Super Squad	(T. Home)
135	Laosnerv City	(P. Harris)	234	Going Going Baggy	(D. Shuter)
136	Slaves Lions 6	(S. Brewer)	235	Yanivio	(G. Bachelard)
137	A Team	(A. James)	236	The Jellies	(M. Adams)
138	Bulky Reserves	(Mr M. Wask)	237	PSV Belants	(L. A. McCole)
139	Dirty Boogers	(G. Fallowfield)	238	Ruler Rovers	(D. Milburn)
140	June XI	(J. Hayes)	239	Black Strap	(K. Walsingham)
141	Why Danny Dichio	(R. James)	240	Overhill Rovers	(Mr M. James)
142	Chachi Association	(A. Bahadur)	241	UFS United	(M. Hyland)
143	ADB Sign Shearers	(Mr P. Johnson)	242	Strawberry Dynamo	(D. Ball)
144	Broken Arrow	(P. Purdy)	243	Gujar Khan United	(F. Mahmood)
145	Sporting Riders	(K. Doughty)	244	Peterson S Dreamers	(M. Peterson)
146	AC Dundee	(F. McDonald)	245	Latham Latics	(W. Latham)
147	Real Hampton	(K. Garsen)	246	Couriers	(A. Kighley)
148	Willow Village	(P. G. Willets)	247	Dans Dodgers	(I. Dennis)
149	C	(M. Corfield)	248	Mercury	(D. Alwood)
150	Fantasy FC	(D. Venn)	249	Morton's Man Gang	(J. Morton)
151	M. S. Alibars	(M. Stayman)	250	The James Gang	(A. Norton)
152	Golden Boots	(A. Marshall)	251	The Warbirds	(K. Arner)
153	We're Not Boring	(W. Gadd)	252	Dropby Brewers	(D. Dodd)
154	The Hair Bear Bunch	(V. Mason)	253	Dynamo Nurdley	(F. Holmes)
155	Mighty Mice 1	(C. Marshall)	254	Dyfarney Mall	(O. Owen)
156	Outsiders	(C. M. Homens)	255	Georgi Best	(B. Whitney)
157	Crofters Rangers	(G. Moss)	256	Moody Arsenal	(H. Lamb)
158	Home Park Heroes	(Mr A. Jacobucci)	257	KEP Wanderers	(Mr C. Barr)
159	Jacobson FC	(J. Portwood)	258	The Colts	(P. O'Connor)
160	Triple Peppers	(J. Anderson)	259	Diamonds Arns	(S. Pothage)
161	Teens Pullies	(J. Mc Carley)	260	Papadopoulos City	(A. Papadopoulos)
162	Castle St Boot Boys	(R. Dick)	261	JP's Hot Shots 4	(K. Pickett)
163	Robbie's Rovers	(R. G. Crutchley)	262	Gothic Gods 82	(Mr B. Gohl)
164	Fantasy Formbook	(A. Kinner)	263	Jenna's Lads	(D. Aldridge)
165	Real Respitech	(J. Merritt)	264	Norwich City	(T. Phillips)
166	Willy's Wanderers	(N. Butler)	265	Scratches	(I. Wakefield)
167	Lucks Rovers 3	(M. Garner)	266	The Kings	(G. Pyle)
168	Yip Man Rovers	(J. Lawson)	267	Only Can Saver	(M. McKewen)
169	Anti-Skins	(Mr T. Skelbford)	268	Melba Skill Monsters	(M. Melburn)
170	Good Times United	(R. Nicholson)	269	Redcar	(G. Thompson)
171	Just For Fun	(M. Galt)	270	Redhill Rabbits	(J. Whately)
172	Gates Champions	(M. Parish)	271	Flair	(A. Whately)
173	Monster Moustache	(C. Bird)	272	Do I Not Like Man Utd	(A. Whately)
174	One Under Par	(Mr I. Patrick)	273	East End Exiles	(M. Cant)
175	Morse The Pud		274	Tunde United	(Dr T. Adeniji)

The players' weekly and overall scores and their values if you are considering the transfer option

GOALKEEPERS				
Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts Wk Ov
10101	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	-1 -20
10102	R Mimms	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0 -1
10201	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-1 -3
10301	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0 +1
10302	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0 +0
10401	D James	Liverpool	3.50	-3 +12
10402	A Warner	Liverpool	0.25	0 +0
10501	J Lukic	Leeds United	3.00	-1 +0
10502	M Beesley	Leeds United	0.75	0 +0
10601	P Smilek	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +0
10602	M Hooper	Newcastle United	1.00	0 +0
10803	S Heston	Newcastle United	3.00	-1 +6
10701	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-4 -21
10702	E Thorstvedt	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0 +0
10801	A Roberts	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0 -7
10802	S Dykstra	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	0 +0
10803	H Segers	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	-3 -11
10801	H Segers	Wimbledon	1.50	0 +0
10902	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +0
10903	P Head	Wimbledon	1.50	0 -28
11001	B Grobbelaar	Southampton	1.50	0 +0
11002	D Bassant	Southampton	0.75	-5 -12
11101	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	-5 +12
11102	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	1.00	0 +0
11201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	+4 +28
11202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.50	0 +0
11301	K Prosser	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	+5 +2
11302	C Woods	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-7 -9
11401	L Midoako	West Ham United	2.50	0 +0
11402	L Sealey	West Ham United	0.50	0 +0
11501	N Southall	Everton	2.50	+5 +4
11502	J Kearton	Everton	0.75	0 +0
11601	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	0 +0
11602	J Gould	Coventry City	0.75	0 +0
11803	J Folan	Coventry City	1.50	-5 -28
11701	A Coton	Manchester City	2.50	0 +0
11702	A Dibble	Manchester City	2.50	0 +0
11703	E Immet	Manchester City	2.00	+5 -18
11801	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	2.50	-1 +14
11802	N Spink	Aston Villa	1.00	0 +0
11901	A Miller	Middlesbrough	2.00	0 +3
11902	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	0.75	-1 +19
12001	K Brannagan	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	+4 -30
12002	A Davison	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0 +0

FULL BACKS				
Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts Wk Ov
20101	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	-1 -2
20102	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	4.50	0 -3
20103	J Irwin	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0 +1
20201	P Parker	Manchester United	2.50	0 +6
20202	G Neville	Manchester United	2.50	-1 +1
20203	S Pearce	Manchester United	0.75	0 +5
20302	D Lytle	Nottingham Forest	4.50	0 +11
20303	A-H Hasland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0 +0
20401	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	-1 +14
20402	S Bjornbye	Liverpool	3.00	0 +0
20403	S Harkness	Liverpool	0.75	-1 +17
20501	A Dorog	Leeds United	3.50	0 +8
20502	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	-1 +6
20503	N Worthington	Leeds United	1.50	-1 -1
20504	K Sharp	Leeds United	0.50	0 +0
20601	J Beresford	Newcastle United	3.00	+1 +5
20602	M Hotter	Newcastle United	3.00	0 +0
20603	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	+1 +4
20701	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-2 -7
20702	J Edinburg	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0 -3
20703	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	-1 -1
20704	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0 +0
20705	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-1 -4
20801	D Bardeley	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	-3 -5
20802	R Bravett	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	-1 -4
20803	N Zello	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	-1 -1
20901	A Kimble	Wimbledon	2.50	0 +2
20902	G Elkins	Wimbledon	1.50	0 -8
20903	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	1.50	0 -10
20904	R Joseph	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +0
21001	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	+7 +6
21002	F Bernal	Southampton	1.00	+3 +1
21003	S Chertoff	Southampton	1.00	0 +1
21101	S Clarke	Chelsea	1.50	0 +3
21102	S Minto	Chelsea	1.50	0 +3
21103	G Hall	Chelsea	0.50	+4 +4
21104	A Myers	Chelsea	0.50	0 +0
21201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	+4 +24
21202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	+4 +24
21203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.50	0 +0
21301	D Pelvancu	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0 +1
21302	J Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	+4 +7
21303	P Atterton	Sheffield Wednesday	3.50	0 +4
21401	J Dicks	West Ham United	3.00	0 -2
21402	T Broadner	West Ham United	0.75	0 +0
21403	K Rowland	West Ham United	0.75	0 +3
21501	G Abblet	Everton	2.50	+4 +10
21502	E Barrett	Everton	2.50	0 +4
21503	M Jackson	Everton	1.50	+4 +4
21604	P Holmes	Everton	0.50	0 -2
21601	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0 +0
21602	A Pickering	Coventry City	1.00	0 -2
21603	S Morgan	Coventry City	0.75	0 +0
21604	M Hall	Coventry City	0.75	-2 -12
21701	T Phelan	Manchester City	1.50	0 +5
21702	R Edgill	Manchester City	0.75	0 +0
21703	D Brightwell	Manchester City	0.75	+4 -1
21704	J Foster	Manchester City	2.50	0 +19
21801	G Charles	Aston Villa	4.50	0 +4
21802	S Staunton	Aston Villa	2.50	0 +18
21803	A Wright	Aston Villa	0.50	0 +0
21804	P King	Aston Villa	0.50	0 +0
21805	B Small	Aston Villa	0.75	0 +0
21901	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	1.00	0 +20
21902	N Cox	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 +19
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	0.50	0 +0
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.50	0 +0
22001	G Bangson	Bolton Wanderers	0.25	0 -11
22002	S Green	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	+4 -9
22003	J Phillips	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0 +2
22004	A Todd	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0 +2
22005	S McAnaspie	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	+4 -2

CENTRAL DEFENDERS				
Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts Wk Ov
30705	J Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0 +0
30801	D Maddox	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	-1 -5
30802	S Yates	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	-1 -4
30803	A McDonald	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	0 +0
30805	K Ready	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0 -4
30901	A Reeves	Wimbledon	2.50	0 -2
30902	A Thorn	Wimbledon	0.75	0 -2
30903	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.75	0 -8
30904	C Perry	Wimbledon	1.00	0 -11
31001	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	+4 +0
31002	A Neilson	Southampton	1.50	0 +7
31003	R Hall	Southampton	1.50	+4 +12
31101	E Johnson	Chelsea	1.50	0 +0
31102	J Kjeldberg	Chelsea	1.50	0 +0
31103	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0 +3
31104	D Lee	Chelsea	0.75	+4 +5
31201	A Adams	Arsenal	4.50	+4 +28
31202	S Boulton	Arsenal	3.00	+3 +24
31203	M Keown	Arsenal	1.50	+4 +21
31204	A Linghan	Arsenal	1.50	0 +0
31301	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0 +2
31302	A Pearce	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-3 -2
31401	S Polla	West Ham United	2.50	-3 -1
31402	M Ripper	West Ham United	1.00	-3 +9
31403	A Martin	West Ham United	0.75	0 +0
31404	S Webster	West Ham United	0.50	0 +0
31405	A Whitbread	West Ham United	0.50	0 +0
31501	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	0 +2
31502	D Watson	Everton	2.50	+3 +5
31503	C Short	Everton	2.50	0 +4
31602	D Rennie	Coventry City	0.75	-2 -8
31603	D Busat	Coventry City	0.75	-2 -2
31604	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.50	-2 -9
31701	K Curle	Manchester City	1.50	+4 -3
31702	A Kermaghan	Manchester City	1.00	0 -1
31703	M Vonk	Manchester City	1.00	0 +0
31704	K Symons	Manchester City	1.50	+4 -3
31801	U Enigbu	Aston Villa	2.50	-1 +17
31802	N McGrath	Aston Villa	0.75	-1 +18
31901	P Pearson	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 +26
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 +3
31903	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0 +19
31904	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	+3 -1
32001	A Stubbs	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	+3 -10
32002	C Falgout	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0 +0
32003	S Coleman	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0 +0
32004	G Taggart	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0 -2
32005	G Strong	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0 +0



John Jensen, of Arsenal, finds that getting time on the ball is a rarity in the rough and tumble of the Premiership

How to strike it rich

GOALS are a must in Interactive Team Football. I learned that when trying a competition similar to this in Denmark. The most important point is to pick all-round players who appear regularly and can score goals. Even with the defenders I was looking for scorers because that's the way you earn points.

The biggest buy was Les Ferdinand at £8 million, but he's the man who has scored me the most points. I have always thought that he is one of the best strikers in the country. He's fast and strong and has a good finish. His shooting is outstanding. But the thing about Ferdinand is that he jumps at the right time. He can outjump big men like Tony Adams and Steve Bould, and he scores a lot of goals from headers.

It's not that Queens Park Rangers didn't have quality players to support Ferdinand, but now he's at Newcastle United he has people like Beardsley and Ginola around. In my opinion, Ginola is one of the best men to have behind the attacking players — which is why I picked him too — so Ferdinand is now getting good quality delivery from midfield.

It is always easier for a striker or a winger to come from Europe to England to play. Here you will always face a flat back four and so you can find the space, whereas in Europe they always have man-to-man marking. It means that for a

John Jensen, the Denmark and Arsenal midfielder player, on his ITF team

player like Ginola it's not so hard to fit in. Klinsmann was outstanding here, but in Germany he is finding it harder because there is always a man on him. For the midfield players and defenders, however, coming to England is much harder. You will always be judged on how many goals you score, and there is never any time or space to relax on the ball or dribble past a player. The tackles are flying in all the time, so you just make the simple pass.

That is why I rate Jamie Redknapp so

JENSEN'S TEAM

Goalkeeper: E Thorstvedt (Tottenham) £1m
Full backs: N Cox (Middlesbrough) £1m
Centre backs: K Monkou (Blackburn) £1.5m
Midfielders: P McGrath (Blackburn) £1.5m
Strikers: D Batty (Blackburn) £4m
Manager: J Redknapp (Liverpool) £2.5m

highly. He has improved unbelievably and controls the midfield at Liverpool now. He holds the ball, he makes simple passes and he has a great shot. I think he can score 10 or 12 goals this season.

Liverpool will always be one of the great clubs in the world, but you can't be No 1 every year. Roy Evans has rebuilt the team in two years and I think they will be the strong team for the next five or six years, back to the way they were in the 1980s. They are so frustrating to play against and can score within a couple of passes.

To complete my midfield I went for David Batty and Gary McAllister. I think Batty is one of the best midfield men I have played against. He's strong and a good passer of the ball. McAllister is an exceptional player, he will always score goals. I think he will be the top midfielder scorer of the season. He takes free kicks and penalties and I think he can get 10 or 15 goals this year.

The other big points-winner for me has been Neil Cox. I have always thought that he is a good player, even before he was with Middlesbrough, but at the start of the season I knew that Middlesbrough had to have a good defence if they were going to survive in the Premiership, so I picked Cox. It may have been a bit of a gamble at first but he is going forward all the time and he can score a goal or two.

MIDFIELD PLAYERS				
Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts Wk Ov
41406	D Gordon	West Ham United	1.00	0 +0
41409	R Slater	West Ham United	1.00	+1 +11
41410	S Lazarides	West Ham United	1.00	0 +2
41411	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00	0 +5
41501	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	5.00	0 +10
41502	J Ebbrell	Everton	1.50	+2 +3
41503	A Limpar	Everton	2.50	+2 +14
41504	B Horne	Everton	1.50	0 +8
41505	V Samways	Everton	1.50	0 +5
41506	J Parkinson	Everton	1.00	+2 +15
41507	A Grant	Everton	0.50	0 +2
41508	A Kanchelskis	Everton	0.50	+2 +9
41601	P Cook	Coventry City	2.00	0 +1
41602	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	+1 +10
41603	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.50	0 +1
41605	L Jenkinson	Coventry City	0.75	0 +0
41606	J Darby	Coventry City	0.75	0 +0
41607	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	+1 +14
41608	Isaacs	Coventry City	3.00	0 +7
41609	C Batista	Coventry City	1.00	0 +0
41610	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	+1 +14
41701	G Filcroft	Manchester City	2.50	+1 +5
41702	P Beagrie	Manchester City	3.00	0 +3
41703	S Lomas	Manchester City	1.50	+2 +9
41704	J Brightwell	Manchester City	1.50	0 +3
41706	N Summerbee	Manchester City	1.50	+4 +11
41707	G Kinkladze	Manchester City	1.50	+2 +13
41801	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.00	-1 +11
41802	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.00	+1 +20
41803	G Southgate	Aston Villa	2.00	+1 +17
41804	G Fenton	Aston Villa	0.75	0 +0
41805	F Carr	Aston Villa	0.50	0 +0
41806	M Draper	Aston Villa	2.50	+1 +21
41901	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	1.00	+1 +25
41902	A Moore	Middlesbrough	2.00	0 +0
41903	J Moreno	Middlesbrough	1.00	0 +0
41904	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	0.75	+1 +14
41905	J Pollock	Middlesbrough	2.00	0 +14
41906	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 +0
42001	Juninho	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	+2 +5
42003	A Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	+2 +12
42004	R Sneekes	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0 +4
42005	M Patterson	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0 +8
42006	N McDonald	Bolton Wanderers	0.25	0 +0
42007	W Burnett	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0 +0

STRIKERS				
Code	Name	Team	Em	Pts Wk Ov
50101	A Shearer	Blackburn Rovers	10.00	+1 +32
50102	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	7.00	0 +8
50103	M Newell	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	+1 +8
50104	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0 +1
50201	E Cantona	Manchester United	7.50	+1 +8
50202	A Cole	Manchester United	7.00	+1 +11
50203	B McClair	Manchester United	3.00	0 +6
50204	P Scholes	Manchester United	2.50	+1 +22
50301	B Roy	Nottingham Forest	6.00	0 +18
50302	K Campbell	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0 +1
50303	J Lee	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0 +10
50304	G Bull	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0 0
50305	A Sizenl	Nottingham Forest	3.50	0 0
50401	R Fowler	Liverpool	8.00	+1 +30
50402	S Collymore	Liverpool	7.50	0 +9
50403	I Rush	Liverpool	3.00	+3 +14
50501	A Yeobach	Leeds United	7.50	+1 +28
50502	P Desane	Leeds United	2.50	+3 +11
50503	P Mashinga	Leeds United	1.50	0 +1
50504	N Whelan	Leeds United	1.50	+1 +21
50505	J Forrester	Leeds United	0.50	0 0
50601	F Ferdinand	Newcastle United	8.00	+3 +38
50602	P Bardsley	Newcastle United	5.00	+1 +15
50603	P Kilton	Newcastle United	2.50	+1 +21
50604	M Allen	Newcastle United	0.50	0 0
50701	E Sheringham	Tottenham Hotspur	8.00	+3 +28
50702	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	+1 +12
50704	R Roystonall	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+1 +13
50801	K Gallen	Queens Park Rangers	4.50	0 +8
50802	B Allen	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0 +1
50803	D Dlichio	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0 +18
50804	G Penrice	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	0 +1
50805	M Heslaye	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	0 0
50901	D Holdsworth	Wimbledon	4.00	0 +13
50902	J Goodman	Wimbledon	1.50	0 +7
50903	M Harford	Wimbledon	1.00	0 +4
50904	G Blissett	Wimbledon	0.75	0 0
50905	A Clarke	Wimbledon	0.75	0 +2
50906	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	2.50	0 +7
51001	M Le Tissier	Southampton	8.00	+3 +13
51002	N Shipperley	Southampton	2.50	+1 +14
51003	G Walfson	Southampton	2.00	+1 +11
51004	C Mankell	Southampton	0.75	0 +1
51101	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	+1 +18
51102	M Stein	Chelsea	2.50	+1 +5
51103	J Spencer	Chelsea	2.50	0 +4
51104	P Furlong	Chelsea	2.50	0 +3
51201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.50	+1 +21
51202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.50	+4 +29
51203	J Hawthorn	Arsenal	4.00	0 0
51204	C Kluwerna	Arsenal	1.50	0 0
51206	P Dikov	Arsenal	0.75	0 0
51301	D Mitchell	Sheffield Wednesday	4.00	+1 +8
51302	M Bright	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	+1 +12
51303	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0 +4
51304	D Donaldson	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0 +3
51305	M Degryne	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	+1 +9
51401	A Collins	West Ham United	4.50	+1 +13
51402	M Rogers	West Ham United	2.00	+1 +2
51404	I Dowle	West Ham United	0.75	+1 +10
51501	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	0 +1
51502	D Amolachi	Everton	2.00	0 +11
51503	P Rideout	Everton	3.00	+1 +18
51504	G Stuart	Everton	2.00	+3 +9
51505	S Barlow	Everton	0.75	0 0
51601	D Dublin	Coventry City	4.50	+3 +14
51602	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	4.00	0 +11
51605	N Lamptey	Coventry City	1.00	+1 +3
51701	U Rosier	Manchester City	5.50	+1 +12
51702	N Quinn	Manchester City	4.00	0 +4
51705	G Creaney	Manchester City	2.50	0 +3
51801	M Milosaviev	Aston Villa	4.00	+5 +20
51803	D Yorke	Aston Villa	3.00	+3 +22
51804	T Johnston	Aston Villa	2.50	+3 +3
51901	J Florjott	Middlesbrough	5.00	+3 +14
51902	J Hendrie	Middlesbrough	1.50	0 0
51903	P Wilkinson	Middlesbrough	1.00	0 0
51904	N Barmby	Middlesbrough	4.00	+1 +16
52001	J McGinley	Bolton Wanderers	3.00	+4 +12
52003	M Pasteljalain	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	+1 +6
52004	F De Freitas	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0 +14

Growth of counterfeiting is real, say police

By Robert Miller

CURRENCY counterfeiting is on the increase and the total of forged currency seized in Britain this year will top the £18 million recovered last year, a senior detective said yesterday.

Detective Inspector Steve Putman, of the National Criminal Intelligence Service, said that as well as the millions of pounds of sterling notes seized last year, \$5.5 million in fake US currency was tracked down. He added: "People always assume that it is the Bank of England or other banks which are the victims of

counterfeit gangs. But it is the ordinary people who lose out when the notes are passed down the line, together with the retail shops in the high street."

Mr Putman was speaking on the opening day of The Prevention of Financial Fraud, a three-day conference in London organised by the International Conference Group.

The conference is being attended by law enforcers from 45 countries, including members of the FBI, New Scotland Yard and Interpol, and by representatives of banks and financial institutions.

Opening the conference, Professor

Michael Levi, of the University of Wales, said that "fraud is not a competitive issue". Governments were, in general, increasing their funding of agencies to combat international fraud and money laundering. Professor Levi said, but he added: "There is no country where fraud and corruption are really taken seriously enough by those in charge of resource allocation."

In the US, efforts are being made to streamline the suspicious activity forms that institutions file with the authorities. William Bailey, deputy director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, said that a

new Suspicious Activity Reporting System was intended to cut down on the 12 million currency forms that had been filed by more than 10,000 banks.

John Moscow, from the New York County District Attorney's office, said that London was very much on the circuit of large cities in which international fraudsters based themselves. To underline the global nature of fraud and money-laundering and the need for closer co-operation between Governments and a more pro-active role by the banks and other financial institutions, Mr Moscow referred to a case currently

under investigation, saying: "I am looking at the involvement of Bahrain, Zurich, Frankfurt, New York and London. And, at the end of the day, it concerns money stolen from people in Greece."

Major Juan Sosa, of the Policía Nacional in Ecuador, identified three areas of concern in his country that had implications for international law enforcement agencies. He said that profits made from drug-trafficking, international car robbery and kidnapping were not just being laundered through neighbouring Peru and Colombia but also through the US and European countries.

PIA panel calls for home-loan law change

By Robert Miller

THE current system of monitoring home-loans advice is "highly unsatisfactory" and the law should be changed, the independent consumer panel of a City watchdog said.

In its first annual report, the panel, which has been set up by the Personal Investment Authority (PIA), the regulator for firms selling direct to the public, also expressed "very serious concern" at the failure of a number of PIA members to support the voluntary arrangements of the PIA Ombudsman's scheme to deal with complaints about administration and certain non-investment products.

The PIA's consumer panel, an independent body headed by Barbara Saunders, has stopped just short of calling for a pro-active review of past mortgage endowment business, which in 1988 accounted for 83 per cent of all home loans, after the Office of Fair Trading's earlier and critical report on mortgage repayments methods.

The consumer panel said: "The uncertainty over endow-

ment mortgages probably does as much as any other single issue to illustrate the disquiet with which consumers view the financial services industry and the low level of confidence they have in it."

As a result of its concerns over endowment mortgages, the panel has called on the PIA to monitor the selling of endowments, particularly by appointed representative firms. It also calls for a joint PIA/OFT consumer leaflet on choosing a home loan.

In its first-ever report, the panel also expresses concern about how the compensation bill resulting from the current personal pensions mis-selling review will be funded. The issue of the long-term funding of the Investors Compensation Scheme, on which a part at least of the pensions mis-selling bill will fall, is to be discussed at the PIA's board meeting this month.

Joe Palmer, PIA chairman, said the consumer panel's findings and recommendations would be considered carefully. On the Ombudsman's scheme and handling of complaints, the panel said: "The speed with which complaints are resolved is also important, particularly to elderly investors, and we have criticised PIA over delays in resolving complaints outstanding from previous regulators."

The consumer panel's report says that the main finding from its in-depth research is that scandals such as the mis-selling of personal pension plans and the sale of unsuitable home-income plans have bought the industry into public disrepute. The panel said: "Consumer confidence in the financial services industry is very low and that this lack of trust is endangering an unwillingness to invest."

The panel has welcomed a move by the PIA to become a proactive regulator and head off potentially disastrous investment products before they are sold to the public. It said: "We welcome the setting up of an early warning unit within PIA, with the purpose of identifying at an early stage any products, or selling methods, which pose a threat to investors' interests. We also have a role in monitoring consumer problems and feeding them into the early warning process."

Powerhouse said local facilities for the payment of electricity customers' accounts would continue to be provided. The chain has incurred losses in the first three years of its operation, last year plunging into the red by £24 million.

John Devaney, chairman of the group, which employs 3,500 staff, said trading this year had been encouraging and "the planned heavy support" for the pre-Christmas season would continue.

Southern Electric, which had a 36 per cent stake in Powerhouse, said yesterday that the sale would lift its future financial position after it suffered losses last year of £8.3 million.

But the deal makes sense for Hanson's strategy of moving further into the sector after it paid £25 billion for Eastern Group.

Saunders: monitor call



David Shaw, left, L&G bonds and strategy director, and David Rough, investment director

L&G looks to equities rise

By Philip Pangalos

LEGAL & GENERAL, the life insurance to investment management group, expects UK equities to enjoy a prospective return of about 12 per cent in the coming year, and forecasts a FT-SE 100 index peak of about 3,850 in the next 12 months.

L&G has been reviewing the outcome of current year-end forecasts, leading the investment management group to examine prospective returns in the UK markets next year.

After making a number of assumptions, such as the outlook for business based on the

current shape of the UK's yield curve, the study, by David Shaw, L&G's bonds and strategy director, forecasts growth in gross domestic product of about 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent in the coming 12 to 18 months, which is not unlike this year's performance.

This translates into an earnings expectation of about 10 per cent, compared with 14 per cent this year, as the favourable impact of corporate restructuring fades. On the assumption of a broadly stable payout ratio, this generates a dividend growth fore-

cast of about 8 per cent, down 3 per cent from this year, but still an increase of about 5 per cent in real terms.

Inflation expectations are predicted to fall to 4 per cent next year, which, with a risk-free real yield of 3 per cent, will produce a ten-year bond yield of 7.5 per cent, and a prospective total return on conventional gilts of about 15 per cent. Cash is seen as the worst performer next year, with conventional gilts seen as the obvious home for any surplus cash.

L&G foresees little change in real base rates next year.

I am telling truth, says Kevin Maxwell

By Our City Staff

KEVIN MAXWELL was giving yesterday that he was giving truthful evidence at his Central Criminal Court trial but that some things were impossible to recall accurately over a distance of years.

As he started his fourth week in the witness box, Mr Maxwell told Alan Suckling, QC, the prosecutor: "I am not a genius. I don't have photographic recall. I am doing the very best I can," but he could not give either yes or no answers to his questions.

"You could say pass if you find it impossible to answer," Mr Suckling suggested.

"This is not Mastermind

and I can't say pass," Mr Maxwell replied. "I'm doing the best I can. I can't always give the answers you want."

Later he told the prosecutor: "If I recall a lie I will own up. I'm not trying to hide. I'm not putting my head in the sand and pretending there are not problems." He consistently said he was doing his best to answer the questions as truthfully as he could.

Mr Maxwell, 36, Ian, his brother, 39, and Larry Trachtenberg, 42, deny conspiracy to defraud by misusing shares that the prosecution alleges belong to the pension funds.

Real ale toast to share offer

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

SURPRISED drinkers of Samuel Adams, a beer made in Boston, are finding that their usual six-pack comes with a share application form printed on the packaging inviting them to buy stock in the brewing company. Those who do their homework will find that they would be crazy not to take up the offer.

For while high-technology shares have been the darling of the New York stock market this year, they are being overtaken in performance terms by beer. And not just any beer. "Microbrewery" beer, or real ale, made by small companies, is America's latest drinking fad. And the breweries are going public with startling

results. Redhook Ale Brewery, for example, recently went public at \$17 a share. The price shot up 50 per cent on the first day of trading and has since settled at around \$30. Put another way, the price to earnings ratio went from a generous 45 times to a staggering 80 times.

Boston Beer, maker of Sam Adams and several other brews, and the largest microbrewery in the US, is determined to get on this money wheel by attracting a lot of small investors — hence the coupon on the six-pack. This should not only attract Sam Adams drinkers to buy the shares, but potential investors to buy the beer. Each

customer is allowed \$495 worth of shares — irrespective of how much he or she drinks. It might seem as if there could be little upside potential, with the shares being issued at \$15 each or 54 times last year's earnings, but market experts predict the price will go racing up within days.

Pete's Brewing Co, the second largest US microbrewer which uses the "Pete's Wick" brand name, is also going for a public offering at \$15 a share, as is Hart Brewing.

Soon, the newly created millionaires of the high-tech computer industry look like being joined by the newly created millionaires of the brewing business.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

International Paper expands empire

INTERNATIONAL PAPER, the world's biggest paper products company, has agreed to buy Federal Paper Board, the forest products company, in a deal worth \$3.5 billion, including debt. The offer of \$55 a share in cash and stock was 21 per cent more than Federal Paper's closing price on Friday. International Paper said the deal would make it more efficient, give it world-class mills in Riegelwood, North Carolina, and Augusta, Georgia, and a facility in Scotland.

Federal Paper said that the deal enables International Paper to serve a broader range of customers and will be an excellent value for its stockholders. The deal is subject to approval by Federal Paper Board's shareholders and regulatory authorities. It is expected to close in early 1996. International Paper, which is based in Purchase, New York, had sales last year of nearly \$15 billion from a wide range of businesses, including manufacturing printing papers, packaging and forest products. The company has manufacturing operations in 28 countries and exports its products to more than 130 countries.

Extra Daiwa inspections

JAPAN'S central bank said it would strengthen inspections of Daiwa Bank's domestic business after Daiwa was ordered to shut down its US operations. Tatsuya Tamura, executive director of the Bank of Japan, said the central bank would monitor Daiwa's business on a monthly basis after completing inspections of its offices in Tokyo and Osaka. Usually the central bank inspects banks every two years. Mr Tamura added the central bank would provide extra funds to Japanese banks if fears arose about Daiwa's liquidity.

PT heads for market

A HEALTHCARE company that is planning a stock market flotation is making headway in its efforts to find a vaccine to protect people against food allergies. Peptide Therapeutics Group, formed in 1992 and which has on board the Rheumatology and Allergy Research Unit at Birmingham University, is pursuing 12 product development programmes, mainly in allergy and rheumatoid arthritis. PT said its aim was to develop vaccines that treat the cause of the disease, rather than alleviating its symptoms.

Receiverships rise

THE number of administration and administrative receivership appointments continued to rise in October, with 213 appointments reported, up from 145 in September and 184 in October 1994. The past three months have all seen more appointments than last year. London and the South East and the North West are primarily responsible for the increase, with rises of 58 per cent and 91 per cent, respectively. Ralph Preece, of Touche Ross London Corporate Recovery, said that construction and domestic manufacturing remain weak.

Scania accelerates

SCANIA, the Swedish truckmaker to be sold early next year, by Investor, the Wallenberg family's industrial holding company, lifted its share of the UK heavy truck market to 16.7 per cent, from 14 per cent, in the first nine months of this year. The planned sale of up to 75 per cent of Scania would value the company at about £5.5 billion. Nine-month figures showed net profit 48 per cent ahead, at 2.31 billion kronor (£220 million). Sales, boosted by last month's launch of the new 4-Series trucks, rose 35 per cent, to 25.4 billion kronor.

Hoechst surges 103%

HOECHST, the first of Germany's big three chemicals groups to report nine-month figures, said that pre-tax profit surged 103 per cent to DM3.4 billion, prompting Jørgen Dornmann, the management board chairman, to forecast a full-year profit to match 1989's record. The company, which consolidated its \$7.1 billion acquisition of Marion Merrell Dow, the US drugs group, in July, said it expected the 1995 results to allow a higher dividend. Sales were 9 per cent up on last year in the first nine months, at DM39.1 billion.

Prowing pegs payout

PROWING, the building company, sold more homes in the first half of the year but average selling prices eased to £77,200, from £84,000. Margin pressure caused pre-tax profits to fall to £4.1 million, from £4.4 million, in the half year to August 31, reducing earnings to 3.3p a share, from 3.6p. The interim dividend is held at 1.9p, due on January 8. The company said that the housing market was proving to be more difficult in 1995 than 1994 and called upon mortgage lenders to adopt "a more positive stance" on negative equity.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	1.20	1.21
Austria Sch	13.75	13.76
Belgium Fr	40.08	40.09
Canada C\$	2.54	2.55
Denmark Kr	0.75	0.76
Finland Mk	5.91	5.92
France Fr	6.52	6.53
Germany Dm	2.40	2.41
Greece Dr	335.00	335.01
Hong Kong \$	12.58	12.59
Ireland P	1.05	1.06
Israel Sh	6.9500	6.9501
Italy Lira	2025.00	2025.01
Japan Yen	178.00	178.01
Netherlands Gld	0.207	0.208
New Zealand \$	2.55	2.56
Norway Kr	10.49	10.50
Portugal Esc	248.00	248.01
S Africa R	11.16	11.17
Spain Ptas	200.50	200.51
Sweden Kr	11.16	11.17
Switzerland Fr	1.93	1.94
Turkey Lira	180.00	180.01
USA \$	1.81	1.82

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



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□ Rec-on-Rec bid could be the next twist □ Political need outweighs economic sense □ Taxpayers lose out again in rail sale

All to play for in the power game

AFTER a half-time interval lasting almost a month, the whistle has blown again for the second half in the great electricity sell-off. Everything must go, and most of the sector already has; those managements not yet singled out by predators are beginning to wonder where they have gone wrong.

They need not worry. The list of suitors has not shortened greatly now that Central and South West has found its match. In fact, it has not shortened at all, because Houston Industries, CSW's partner in the failed assault on Norweb, still has a confirmed interest in UK power.

Two other big American utilities, PacifiCorp and Pacific Gas & Electric, have also been frustrated of late, in their case in attempts to buy into Australia, and will therefore be looking at Britain again. There are plenty of others, including the long list that spoke to Seaboard before yesterday's deal.

What has held the match up has been the regulatory uncertainty hanging over two of the most recent bids, those by the generators National Power and PowerGen for two other Recs. Opinion swings back and forth on whether this will be allowed through without a reference to

the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, but the reckoning on balance must be that the bids will succeed. Once this happens, the next logical development must be a Rec-on-Rec bid, as yet unbid for attempt to hammer this new combination through the competition authorities.

CSW, having lost out to an unexpected rival for the hand of Norweb, has put enough on the table to make this one sure. It is dangerous to label any new price as the high-water mark for power bids, but the remaining four distributors will be lucky to see its like when their time comes. London and Yorkshire are still clear candidates, and the latter is comfortably close geographically to Norweb, Hous-

The odd one out is South Wales, least regarded in terms of growth opportunities and with the added uncertainty of a huge cable franchise that is of doubtful value as yet. One other possibility remains. If Rec-generator mergers are allowed, then a sufficiently well-heeled corporate predator from outside, which cannot find the appropriate small distributor, can always go one step up the food chain by bidding for one of the generators, so acquiring its accompanying Rec at the same time. For those speculators counting their gains from the sector so far, this looks a good bet.

Tax cuts at any rate

ANOTHER horribly anaemic snapshot from British manufacturing yesterday restarted a small bandwagon rolling in favour of lower interest rates. But a politically imperilled Government will probably still opt to cut



taxes instead. This may make little economic sense, but when did economics really come into the equation so close to a general election?

Lower interest rates are more justifiable than tax cuts. The CSO's longer leading indicator fell for the 16th month in a row in October and is far weaker than other cyclical indicators precisely because it is more heavily weighted towards those sectors of the economy which are interest rate-sensitive, such as the housing market.

The Chancellor is under enormous pressure to reduce taxes, not interest rates, although many

a Conservative backbencher would die and go to heaven if both could be delivered. But the argument for tax cuts is weak. Using slowing growth to justify these would go against the grain of Conservative economic philosophy, which has consistently exposed using fiscal policy as a tool of demand management.

In addition, public borrowing, which has shown virtually no improvement from last year, makes large tax cuts look profligate. The Treasury has been pinning its hopes ever more keenly on October's borrowing figures, out next Thursday and including the first big corporation tax payment of the year. Rapid growth last year should mean bumper receipts, it says — but to make a difference, the turnaround from net borrowing to net receipts would have to be bigger than at any time in the last decade.

The Bank of England, which tomorrow delivers its *Inflation Report*, has only reluctantly abandoned its campaign for

higher interest rates. Big, politically inspired tax cuts could easily provoke the Bank into resuming the fight.

Roscos hitting the buffers

SELLING the Roscos, the three companies that own the trains, promised to be the easiest, least controversial and most lucrative part of rail privatisation. Even the Labour Party was in favour of leasing rolling stock. But something has gone wrong.

The beauty of the Roscos was that their £3 billion of nominal assets are contracted to return more than that in "capital revenues", or free cash flow, over the first ten years. They looked a dream for banks — especially expanding foreign banks needing the tax allowances that come with a leasing book — and train manufacturers, who could manipulate the contracts to lease new stock steadily to operators. Hambros, the Government's adviser,

found plenty of interest. It was asked to make 158 presentations in all to interested investors, two-thirds abroad. By now, the Roscos should have been sold for at least £2 billion.

Sadly, the curse of rail privatisation has struck. Japanese banks are not expanding. Labour is miles ahead in the polls and, worst of all, gimlet-eyed bankers noticed that the contracts might be worthless if thinly capitalised operating companies went bust. Of late, the financial ground has been tilted heavily towards operators, but too late. After all that world marketing, two of the three will likely go to management buy-outs. As usual, taxpayers will get a lot less than they should.

It's only fair

BEFORE he disappears in a flurry of knee-jerk criticism, Richard Laphorne, of British Aerospace, is entitled to some fair comment. Mr Laphorne has gained, but so have shareholders, which is what share options are supposed to be about. He personally restructured the finances and capped the liabilities of a business that, when he started, stood a good chance of crashing into the runway.

ABF beats expectations and plans scrip issue

By Patricia Tehan

ASSOCIATED British Foods, which makes Sunblest bread and Silver Spoon sugar, beat market expectations yesterday with a 16 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £375 million for the year to September 16.

The shares jumped 16p to close at 70 1/2p after ABF said it planned a one-for-one bonus share issue to make its shares more accessible to investors and to attract small shareholders. It plans to ask shareholders for approval at the annual meeting in December.

A second interim dividend of 4.5p on each of the increased number of shares is to be paid on March 1 after shareholders have approved the bonus issue. That represents the equivalent

of a total increase of 9.4 per cent on the interim dividends paid in 1994.

Although ABF spent £355 million on Kraft's oil and fats business and Karishams, among other acquisitions last year, it has yet to indicate how it intends to spend its £600 million cash mountain.

Garry Weston, ABF chairman, said: "We are very pragmatic. We are looking at four different opportunities to spend money." These include "small bolt-on opportunities" and building new factories, he said, as well as investment in the Pacific and growing economies around the world.

The profits rise was achieved on sales up 9 per cent

at £4.9 billion. British Sugar provided the biggest share of profits. Its profits were 10 per cent higher at £184 million.

Mr Weston said that after a five-year decline in profitability, Allied Bakeries improved its trading results.

This, he said, justified the capital expenditure invested in the business. Allied Mills reported marginally lower profits after a fall in flour prices early in the year, he said.

ABF's retail outlets in Ireland and the UK lifted operating profits by 17 per cent to £55 million after charging initial reorganisation costs incurred on the acquisition of One Up stores from Storehouse. ABF said its other UK manufactur-

ing operations had a satisfactory year, although its biscuits and crispbread companies were hit by a fall in demand during the warm summer months and increased competition from abroad.

Mr Weston said sales in the last six weeks of trading had risen by about 3-4 per cent, but margins had stood still. He said the squeeze would remain on margins until the UK economy was more buoyant.

Mr Weston said that while the company would be unlikely to be able to recover the increase in costs it had faced over the past years, particularly in paper and packaging, the level of cost increases had begun to slow.

BAT moves bosses to the Big Smoke

By Alasdair Murray

BAT, the tobacco and financial services company, is embarking on a major reorganisation of its top management in an attempt to improve sales of its global tobacco brands.

From January, executives from BAT's worldwide subsidiaries will be based at the company's London headquarters. The move is an attempt to improve co-ordination between the subsidiaries as they market local and international brands in emerging areas. It will also aim to establish a common company culture.

A new company, British-American Tobacco (Holdings) Ltd will be created, but the four existing subsidiar-

ies, Brown and Williamson in the US, Souza Cruz in Brazil, BAT Germany, and BATco, will remain in place to ensure the changes have no direct effect on the company's tax or legal status.

Martin Broughton, group chief executive at BAT, said: "This more cohesive structure should enable us to deliver faster growth and take better advantage of the opportunities in tobacco."

BAT expects that, over the next few years, the bigger regional operatives will return to their old headquarters. Tobacco was the big contributor in BAT's 22 per cent rise in interim profits to £1.15 billion.

Tempos, page 28

Hickson suffering comes out in wash

By Martin Barrow

THE repercussions of last year's so-called soap wars between Unilever and Procter & Gamble continue to blight Hickson International, supplier of manganese catalyst, the controversial ingredient in Persil Power detergent.

Shares in Hickson fell 12p to 87p yesterday after the company gave warning that second-half profits would fall significantly short of market expectations. Hickson also announced the departure of Dennis Kerrison, chief executive.

At the operational level, the company expects to barely break even. But it must absorb exceptional costs of £13 million as it undertakes a substantial reorganisation. The company earned £6 million before tax in the first half.

Hickson was hit hard by the

battle for market share between Unilever and Procter & Gamble last year, when Unilever stopped buying manganese catalyst. The contract with Unilever would normally have contributed about a third of group profits.

James Hann, chairman, will assume the chief executive's duties until a replacement is found for Mr Kerrison. "The company needs a different style of leadership," Mr Hann said. Mr Kerrison will remain in a consultative capacity to complete the sale of Hickson Kerley. Hickson's North American performance products business, to the Tessenler Group for about \$33.5 million.

Tempos, page 28



You may eventually take the luxury for granted ... but never the view.

You can purchase a luxury apartment almost anywhere in London — but only one gives you this bird's eye view of the Houses of Parliament.

It's a truism in the property world that in London, money can buy anything. A luxury specification, security, an impressive address — all can be purchased with the right number of zeros on your cheque.

But there is one thing that is increasingly beyond price — an outstanding view from the window. Obviously, many buyers are happy simply overlooking a quiet square or a row of identical Regency properties. But for sheer drama and breathtaking splendour there is only one address in

London worth considering at the moment — Peninsula Heights. Few apartment buildings in the world are as dramatically located.

Set on the sweeping bend of the Thames by Vauxhall Bridge, it enjoys direct views of the river with a panorama that encompasses the Palace of Westminster, Tate Gallery and Chelsea Embankment. Not surprisingly, the apartments are steadily being acquired by prominent figures in the business and social world. Best selling author and Parliamentarian, Lord Archer (Jeffrey Archer), for example, occupies the penthouse and enjoys both the views and the building's luxury hotel standard facilities. Peninsula Heights has its own gymnasium and sauna, the lobby is staffed by a uniformed receptionist and doorman — and relaxing sofas give visitors a chance to view the Thames before being whisked upstairs to absorb the view from greater heights.

This unique building is yet another hallmark project from Regatta Properties who are noted for their sensitive developments. Peninsula Heights offers a superb choice

of outstandingly appointed one to four bedroom apartments together with one exceptionally fine five bedroom apartment. All have the latest German appliances and granite work surfaces designed to create a functional and eye-catching kitchen. The en-suite bathrooms and shower rooms are equally elegant with marble vanity counters and fully tiled walls and floors. The building also boasts individually controlled air cooling to all apartments providing a level of sophistication not found in other comparably priced buildings in London.

Security is treated seriously too with CCTV cameras, video door entry and a private car park with access via individually coded security tags. Prices span a wide range from £245,000 rising steadily to £3.25 million.

But it is still the location that sets Peninsula Heights apart. To quote the developers: "You may eventually take the luxury for granted, but never the view."

Full information on Peninsula Heights can be obtained from our information bureau on 0171 793 1313.

TELEPHONE 0171 793 1313

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Seaboard deal rekindles interest in power firms

SPECULATIVE interest was rekindled among the regional electricity companies with news of an agreed £1.6 billion bid for Seaboard from Central & South West, the American utilities group.

Central & South West is offering 635p in cash for Seaboard, the seventh regional electricity company to come under the hammer so far this year. The US company formed part of the Texas Energy Partnership consortium that made an unsuccessful bid for Norweb earlier this year. Seaboard responded to the news with a rise of 96p to 627p.

But it was the reaction of the other regional electricity companies that cheered the speculators. The buyers quickly came in for Northern Electric, which had fought off an approach from Trafalgar House, with the shares climbing 37p to 915p. There was also support for South Wales, up 34p to 960p, Yorkshire, 31p to 929p, after touching 938p. East Midlands, 24p to 919p and London, 17p to 923p.

Hanson firming up to 193p after announcing plans to buy the Powerhouse Retail chain from the consortium of regional electricity companies that own the business. No price has been disclosed for the loss-making venture that, at the last count, had assets of almost £21 million. One partner in the consortium is Eastern, which was recently bought by Hanson. The others are Midlands Electricity, 1p dearer at 970p, and Southern, 1p easier at 954p, which has a bid on the table from National Power.

Shares generally closed at their best of the day after a hesitant start. Investors seemed reluctant at first to chase prices higher in the wake of Friday's record-breaking performance on Wall Street. There seemed concerned that the Dow Jones industrial average would fall sharply as profit-takers moved in when business resumed after the weekend break. In the event, New York opened steady.

Sentiment in London was underpinned by the latest decline in industrial production, which traders hoped would provide the peg for the next cut in interest rates. But there is unlikely to be any move on that front before tomorrow's Inflation Report from the Bank of England.

Trading conditions generally were thin, with fewer than 700 million shares having changed



David George, left, and Ted Tuppen, of Enterprise Inns

hands by the close. This figure was boosted by the turnover in Seaboard, which amounted to 114 million shares.

In the thin conditions, companies such as Zeneca made headway, touching a new peak of £12.10 before settling at £12.08, up 26p. Heavy buying of the shares on Friday appears to have left market-makers short of stock. Glaxo

Crédit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, takes issue with its rivals over the outlook for the insurance companies. It has stuck its neck out claiming that earnings will decline across the board over the next four years. Sun Alliance fell 1p to 366p, while Royal Insurance retreated 7p to 381p before figures on Thursday.

Wellcome was another firm market, adding 20p at 87p after denying rumours circulating in the Square Mile on Friday that it had been hit by the taxman for £1.5 billion.

Marked Spencer firmed 3p to 407p before interim figures later today. In spite of the tough conditions for retailers, the group is expected to enjoy another reasonable performance. Pre-tax profit esti-



tions, but it still has funds totalling £601 million on deposit with the bank.

Half-year figures from British Airways came in towards the top end of brokers' forecasts, with pre-tax profits up from £265 million to £295 million in the second quarter. It stretched the figure for the first six months from £349 million to £430 million. The group attributed its improved performance to rapid growth in passenger volume and increased efficiency. It said that passenger and cargo growth both remained strong.

A profits warning and the departure of Tom Hickson, chief executive, left Hickson International nursing a fall of 12p to 87p. The group said that profits in the second half would fall short of market expectations. Brokers had been looking for a final figure of about £13 million, compared with £19.2 million last time, but have now reduced their estimates as low as £6 million in some cases. The troubled specialist chemicals distributor plans to cut jobs and has a number of disposals lined up.

Enterprise Inns, the pub chain operator, of which Ted Tuppen is chief executive, made a confident start in first-time trading. Offered at 145p, the shares touched 151p before ending the session at 149.5p, a premium of 4.5p. Almost 5 million shares had changed hands by the close.

Heritage Bathrooms also had a positive start. Offered at 125p, the shares opened at 147p and ended at the best of the day at 151p, a premium of 26p.

GILTED: The market managed to claw back Friday's losses, helped by the continued absence of sellers. Prices were squeezed higher in thin trading, with sentiment bolstered by the decline in industrial production and firm German bonds. But trading remained thin. In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt rose £11.52 to £107.75, but the total number of contracts completed was a meagre 22,000.

In the cash market, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 jumped £2 to £99.19, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £4 better at £103.

NEW YORK: The Dow Jones industrial average was softer in early trading. At midday, the index was down 1.81 points to 4,823.76.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):		
Dow Jones		4823.76 (-1.81)
S&P Composite		589.98 (-0.59)
Tokyo:		
Nikkei average		18095.97 (+6.17)
Hong Kong:		
Hang Seng		9736.10 (+10.70)
Amsterdam:		
EOE Index		453.32 (+2.33)
Sydney:		
ASX		2708.8 (+15.2)
Frankfurt:		
DAX		2165.79 (+15.82)
Singapore:		
General		2995.81 (+1.47)
Brussels:		
General		2806.71 (+2.28)
Paris:		
CAC-40		1822.64 (+9.48)
Zurich:		
SIX Gen		695.80 (+3.03)
London:		
FT 100		2572.8 (+7.5)
FTSE 100		3514.8 (+14.4)
FTSE MIB 250		3887.7 (+14.0)
FTSE-500		12497.7 (+7.0)
FTSE 100		1005.25 (+0.53)
FT All-Share		1725.27 (+6.28)
FT Non Financials		1830.09 (+0.27)
FT Real Estate		112.41 (+0.15)
FT Govt Bonds		94.09 (+0.24)
Bargains		299.58
SEAQ Volume		639.1m
US\$ (Dollars)		154.43 (+0.01)
German Mark		1.5786 (+0.0003)
Exchange Index		84.5 (unit)
Bank of England official close (4pm)		
ESPR		1.0610
RPI		150.6 Sep (5.9%) Jan 1997: 100
RPI		149.2 Sep (5.1%) Jan 1997: 100

RECENT ISSUES

Abacus Asian Sm	92
Alpha Omikron	17
Arion Props	9
Charmwell Int	5
Cons Coal (50)	6
Crown Int	104
Enterprise Inns (145)	149
Fleming Int	101
German SIV	17
Guinness Flight	4
Guinness Flight	1
Hay & Robertson	71
Heritage Baths (125)	151
Impt Radio	114
Impt Greetings	523
Midland (45)	54
Murray Vci	103
Northern Venture	101
Perp UK Sm C (100)	102
Preston Nth (400)	400

RIGHTS ISSUES

First Choice n/p (60)	4
Quality SP n/p (535)	125
Stordata Sols n/p (12)	5
Superscape n/p (330)	46
Wellington U n/p (100)	2

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Clyde Bowers	165p (-27p)
Metal	371p (-15p)
Argos	523p (-16p)
BFB Ind	230p (-5p)
Sage Group	270p (-8p)
Stanley Leisure	338p (-9p)
Boots	550p (-14p)
BAT	559p (-13p)
ABP	751p (-20p)
ABP	751p (-20p)
Smithline	645p (-12p)
FALLS:	
Hickson	87p (-12p)
Azian	485p (-20p)
Amersham	920p (-26p)
Sun Alliance	366p (-11p)
Kiwi Focus	560p (-13p)
Mersey Docks	443p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 30

TEMPUS Broken biscuits

NO ONE likes stale biscuits in the wrapper they may look fine but once past their sell-by date, they are only fit for the bin. The stock market took heart yesterday from news that United Biscuits had sold Keebler, finally ridding the company of an underperformer.

However, the \$500 million sale of the cookies and crackers division of US subsidiary Keebler may provide only temporary relief from the downward spiral of the United share price. Yesterday's deal was not self-announced in July. The three divisions of Keebler are expected to attract sale proceeds of some \$600 million, against an expected \$800 million when the sales were announced. Nevertheless, it undermines United's assertion that the sale of Keebler

would raise enough funds to eliminate the company's debt problems. The City expects United to be left with gearing of around 40 per cent and a substantial interest charge.

Retreating from the UK leaves United heavily exposed to the US market, where McVities and KP no longer command customer loyalty. Meanwhile, the retailers are signalling that margins are going to be squeezed yet again with a price war.

United shareholders have put up with the company's crumbling share price in the hope that a bidder will step in with a generous offer. Today, that prospect looks less likely. Even after the Keebler sale is completed, potential predators will be looking at a price of some 25 times earnings, hardly cheap for a business that is looking stale. Shareholders should sell into the rally.

British Airways

TRAVELLERS and investors alike will find the latest management slogans at British Airways ("the world favours the brave" and "heroes don't have dividers") a little alarming.

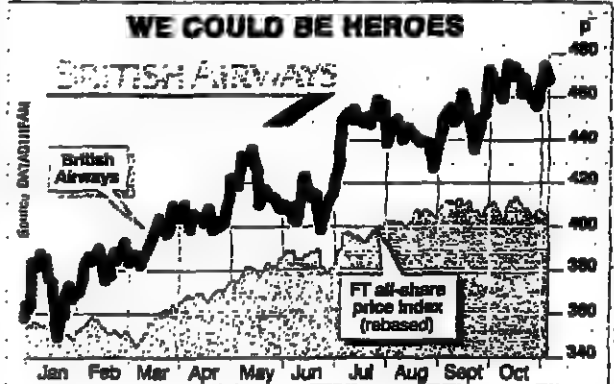
In the same way that passengers in the departure lounge want to be reassured that the flight is routine with fine weather expected, investors prefer to own shares that rise steadily without excessive turbulence. No one wants a hero on the flight deck or in the boardroom intent on executing a loop-the-loop.

Fortunately, BA now has a better chance than ever to deliver steady, out-performance, assuming the world's heroes are not about to take over the controls. International air traffic out of the UK is set to rise by between 5

and 6 per cent annually until the end of the century while capacity growth remains subdued. Just over 400 aircraft will be added to the world airline industry next year compared with more than 800 in 1991.

The fundamentals for profitable expansion look good. With the hapless USAir being courted by its

bigger rivals, BA can look forward to a profitable exit from its investment and code-sharing with a bigger US carrier. BA's strongest card is not its brand or its worldwide network but its position at Heathrow and the big US carriers will be scrambling to get access to the high-yielding Heathrow traffic.



BAT

MANAGEMENT consultants are a weak alternative to developing ideas in-house. The news that the boys from Bain have been crawling over BAT's tobacco operations is likely to arouse anxiety among investors. In this case, the outcome looks sensible and the only criticism will come from those who wonder why BAT took so long to act.

BAT is streamlining the decision-making process in a organisation where, too often, different arms waving different products were fighting each other for the same customers. It is a problem being confronted by oil companies such as Shell and BP who have embarked on management shake-ups.

BAT is really four tobacco companies operating out of America, Brazil, Germany and the UK. The opening up of markets in the developing world has turned tobacco from a cash cow into a

growth industry for BAT but has led to each of its operating companies launching separate marketing drives into Eastern Europe.

The new structure should eliminate duplicate effort but also raises the bigger question of whether BAT is being groomed ultimately to do the splits. The market wonders about expansion in financial services, while tobacco in the past has been blamed for lowering the share rating. That is hardly a reason to demote today, as tobacco is growing fast and the excitement in the financial sector is led by the expectation of bids, not profits.

Hickson

HICKSON was never a one-product company but it came very close to being a one-client company with a third of its profits coming from a single contract with Unilever. Unfortunately, the contract related to production of the key ingredient of Persil Powder.

Unilever's notorious washing powder that was discontinued after a war of words with the soap manufacturer's main rival.

The question arises how Hickson could have allowed itself to rely so heavily on a single product to a single customer but the problem did not end there. Capacity at its Castleford plant fell to 60 per cent over production breakdowns, and the sale of Hickson Kerley took a year to complete.

There is a profitable operation within Hickson and the new management reckons the layoffs and improved management at Castleford will deliver cost savings of £6 million per annum but Hickson has little time to get it right. Industry analysis reckons the chemical cycle is at or near its peak, which suggests that full recovery by 1996 - the company's deadline - will be too late for most shareholders.

EDITED BY CARL MORTSHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE			
COFFEE			
Dec	914.00	Jan	1057.00
Mar	981.00	Apr	1043.00
May	981.00	Jun	1043.00
Jul	981.00	Sep	1043.00
Oct	1003.00	Volume	2399
Dec	1051.00	Volume	2399
ROBUSTA COFFEE			
Nov	2445.2475	Jan	2145.2133
Dec	2322.2320	Feb	2045.2075
Jan	2362.2360	Mar	2045.2075
Feb	2140.2145	Apr	2045.2075
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Aug	2140.2145	Oct	2045.2075
Sep	2140.2145	Nov	2045.2075
Oct	2140.2145	Dec	2045.2075
Nov	2140.2145	Jan	2045.2075

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

BA mission control

"HEROES don't have diaries" is one of a series of morale-boosting posters that have suddenly started appearing around the walls of the British Airways headquarters after the appointment of Robert Ayling as chief executive.

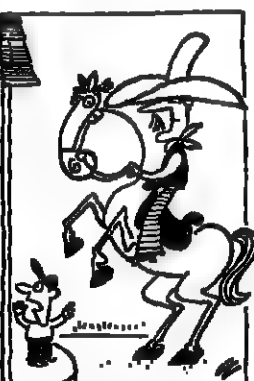
Ayling, who was forced at a press conference yesterday to deny he had actually thrown away his own diary, said the campaign was intended to encourage initiative among senior management. The poster features the crew of Apollo 13 asking Houston for help and being told: "I think there is a window next Tuesday."

Ten years after privatisation, Ayling said, BA was still too bureaucratic. "We are encouraging people to be brave, not reckless," he protested. "It is not always necessary for people to be in meetings and Apollo 13 wouldn't have made much headway in that kind of environment."

A political note has crept into takeovers. CS First Boston and Morgan Grenfell, merchant bankers to the latest electricity merger, drew on presidents and prime ministers for codenames while they thrashed out bid terms. Central and South West Corporation was President Coolidge. Seaboard was three-times prime minister (Lord) Salisbury.

Free water zone

EXPENSE claims on the office can only fall from here on. Gladwina, a new City restaurant that opened yesterday, promises never to "charge for bottled water" — an area of traditional rip-off, the chef says. Meanwhile, Gladwina's ordinary coffee costs £2.50 and cappuccino £3.



"Says he's come to read the meter"

All together

A SEVEN-PERSON institutional broking team has moved from BWD Rensburg to Granville Davies, a rival broker in Leeds, and all of the team members have been found desks in one large room at their new home. The seven bring with them analytical expertise in 140 companies, to complement the 90 or so companies Granville Davies already follows, and the move has been amicable, says Peter Morrison, new director.

Earth beat

SMALL London quake, not many hurt. The British Geological Survey of Nottingham reports seismic alerts in London on Saturday and Sunday. Residents of Kensington, Chelsea and Fulham told local police and Scotland Yard of "buildings shaking, candlesticks rocking and chandeliers swinging". A similar "event" occurred three years ago on August 8 and 9, when buildings were evacuated around Finsbury Park. Then, as now, the blame apparently falls on a rock group. Oasys was performing at Earls Court Exhibition Centre over the weekend, leading to 15 calls about "movement" from an area of one square mile. "No earthquakes or explosions were detected on the BGS seismograph network," a boffin says.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Driving towards a new way of paying to rebuild Britain

Construction groups want sweeteners in return for the burden of risk, says Ross Tieman

Public administration in Britain could be on the brink of its most fundamental revolution since the creation of the civil service. Or the construction industry may be about to get its own back for years of underpaying its chief client — by rejecting the invitation to fund the renewal of Britain's ageing infrastructure under the Private Finance Initiative (PFI).

Construction industry bosses, many of whom are deeply sceptical about the PFI, are, of course, looking for sweeteners. With Kenneth Clarke's Budget just three weeks away, their chorus of despair is reaching a crescendo.

Michael Jack, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, claims to distinguish a more humorous refrain. "People are seeing the potential," he says. "They want to motor quicker. That does not require a better carrot from the Government."

The veracity of these competing views will be tested over the coming months. The Government has set itself a target of letting PFI contracts leading to £5 billion of capital investment by April.

The £2.7 billion Channel Tunnel rail link, which ministers hope to sign off next month, would account for just over half of that. But with the balance made up from dozens of schemes, ranging in value from a few million to the £400 million contract to supply trains for the London Underground Northern Line, the Government still faces an uphill sweat to meet its target.

Enthusiasts portray the PFI as a miraculous device that will transform the face of public service provision in Britain. By tradition, public officials faced with a new instruction from Parliament proceed much as a manufacturer would when faced with a massive new order from a customer.

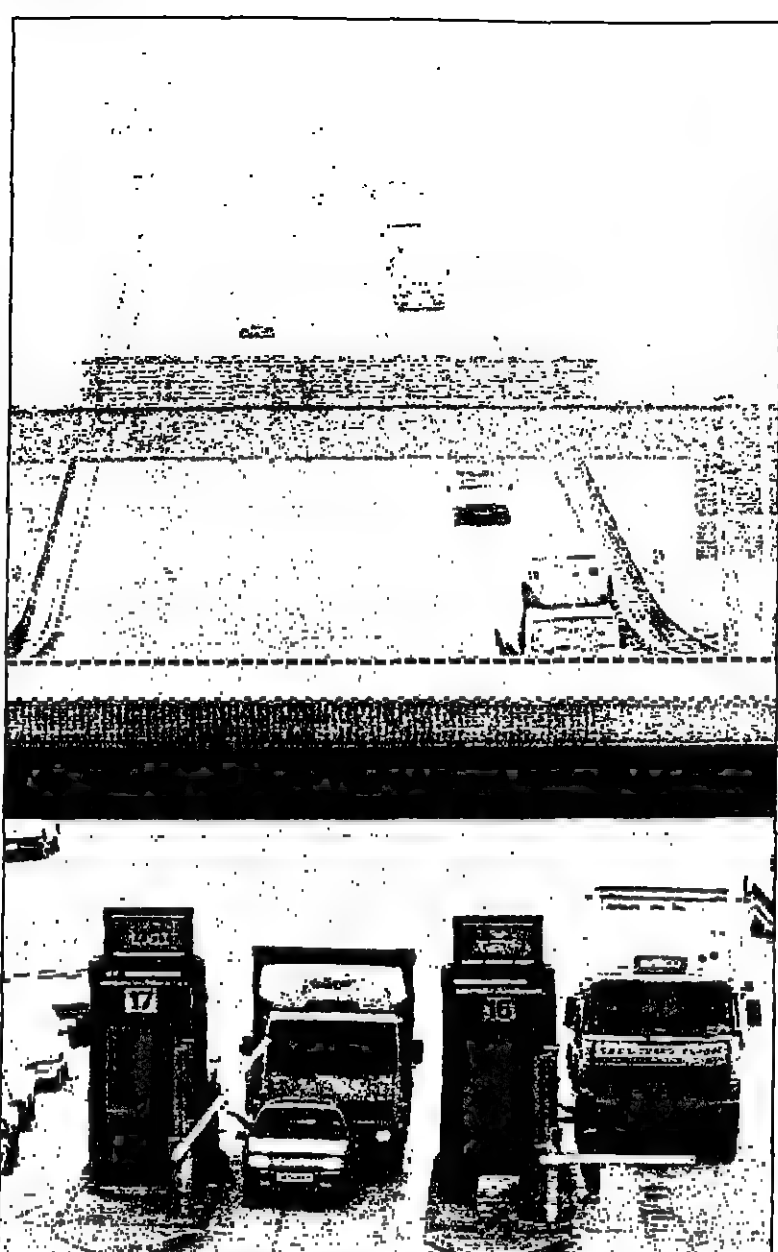
They draw up a plan to meet the contract, procure the building and the assets required, hire the staff and manage their workflow.

But the PFI turns the civil servant into a purchasing manager. Instead of undertaking the task himself, he seeks bids from the private sector to carry out a given job, and lets the contract to whoever promises the best service at the lowest price.

Instead of being invited to knock up a cut-price building with a decent chance of making a profit on the cost overrun claims, the private sector is being asked to stick its collective neck out.

It is being invited to design, build, finance and operate a given facility for up to 30 years. Putting together a £100 million district hospital project on this basis involves risks the like of which most construction bosses have never dreamed. No wonder there has been a two-year hiatus in the signing of new projects.

There are signs, however, that the order famine is now coming to an end.



The Dartford toll bridge is a successful private sector infrastructure project

Preferred bidders for the first four road schemes have now been selected. A similar cluster of hospital projects is poised to proceed. The Northern Line trains are under construction, a £120 million information technology contract has been agreed, and others will follow.

Such deals, the Government hopes, will create precedents that can be followed more quickly by the next generation of PFI schemes. Given that the Department for Education alone is listing 650 schemes that are open to PFI funding, establishing best practice and core contract terms is an urgent priority.

The PFI may seem the logical next step to a Government that has levered a sizeable swathe of former public sector activities into the realm of private industry in a programme that began with privatisation and has evolved through contracting out and the creation of agencies.

But the PFI's demands on government and industry alike achieve a

different order of magnitude. A new kind of civil servant, the super-sophisticated purchasing manager, is required, capable of devising contracts with the flexibility to meet government needs in 15, 20 or even 30 years' time. For no private consortium is going to build dedicated facilities without a contract that guarantees repayment of funds borrowed within the lifetime of the asset and its revenue stream.

For many public service workers, too, this is likely to be traumatic. Secure, poorly-paid, low-productivity jobs will become harder and harder to find.

Many smaller contracting companies may suffer a similar fate. For PFI schemes of any size are going to require a new kind of company. Already, the bidders for the larger district hospital schemes are made up of consortia, usually embracing contractors, private medical groups, and facilities management companies.

The idea is that the private consor-

tium will design a hospital that delivers the required level of service at the lowest possible cost over the life of the contract.

To achieve cost savings, the consortium may design a radically different hospital from those that have been built in the past. Layouts will be arranged to minimise the cost of service provision, in areas ranging from heating to security. Innovation is expected to extend to the finest detail. For example, since the consortium will be responsible for cleaning, it may use more costly materials at the outset, which are easier to keep clean, to save on running costs.

According to Douglas Hogg, the chief executive of the advisory Private Finance Panel and head of the Treasury's Private Finance Unit, initial results bear out expectations of savings of 20 per cent to 30 per cent over traditional ways of providing services.

But any savings have to be offset against the higher cost of capital to the private sector, and the premium demanded by companies for the hazard of assuming responsibility for a facility for decades, rather than just the couple of years it is under construction.

At the outset, ministers talked enthusiastically about transferring risk to the private sector. Now it is clear that the private sector is wary of risks it does not understand. Some projects have but a single bidder. Few have more than two or three.

That is partly a problem of funding. Because of the scale of the PFI, financing such projects is utterly beyond the abilities of the handful of companies equipped to undertake them. Mr Jack believes that about £25 billion could ultimately be required just to meet the capital cost of possible PFI schemes.

City merchant bankers and accountants, who have thus far focused their attentions on advising the Government on how best to structure PFI contracts, are now beginning to ponder how they can provide their private sector clients with the cash to undertake them.

We are also beginning to see the emergence of innovative funding vehicles. Hermes Investment Management, the pension fund administrator, has agreed to put up £100 million to sponsor the Innisfree PFI Fund. The prime purpose of this fund is to provide mezzanine finance for PFI projects, ranking between bank creditors and shareholders. But such investment funds are also likely to become repositories of expertise, acting both as experts in risk assessment, and as a conduit for best practice between projects.

In time, if the PFI takes off, at least two new business sectors are likely to develop on the stock exchange. On one hand will be huge, capital intensive undertakings owning assets such as roads and railways, much as exist in France and Spain, often charging the public directly for the services they provide.

On the other, a group of more service-oriented companies, which use specialist management expertise to run hospitals, sports centres, and even defence support facilities under contract to the Government.

But all that will depend on the carrots that Mr Clarke unveils in his Budget.

Tackling those tough decisions in business

Lindsay Cook on the second NatWest/The Times Ethics Essay Competition

As Parliament last night voted on the Nolan committee recommendations, the second National Westminster Bank/The Times Business Ethics Essay Competition was launched. It is timely because for every MP being paid to represent an interest, there is a company to foot the bill. The ethics of Parliament, those in public life and business in general is of interest, and involves all British companies.

Students have always been long on ethics and short on business experience. The competition hopes to bring the two together by posing an ethical dilemma for undergraduates to resolve in the space of a 1,000-word essay.

They are invited to consider what John Smith, the chief executive of Food Chain Stores, might do when trying to close one of his suburban branches. The chain needs to overhaul its operations and get rid of old stores and replace them with larger ones.

The branch in question has a large number of low-income families as customers and the site would not allow sufficient expansion to increase the number of lines on the shelves and improve profitability.

While the shareholders will benefit from the closure of an uneconomic branch, Mr Smith receives hundreds of protest letters and when he visits the store is greeted by protesters and reporters. He has to decide whether to serve the community at the expense of the shareholders, or whether there is another solution.

It is a dilemma experienced by many bank chief executives. One of the Big Four banks unofficially defines its policy on branch closures as never allowing itself to be the last branch in a village or small town. The protests are always greater when pensioners and the poor have to travel miles to gain access to their money than when there is a branch of another bank or building society in the area to which they can transfer their allegiance and account.

The number of bank and building society branches is set to fall further in coming years, with mergers such as

those between Lloyds Bank and TSB and the Halifax Building Society and Leeds Permanent taking place.

Assurances to staff that there will be no compulsory redundancies do not reassure customers, who have seen the number of branches decline rapidly in the past ten years.

The dilemma has applications to many businesses and has the interests of shareholders, staff, local councils and customers at its nub.

NatWest has a code of conduct that guides the actions of all employees worldwide. Derek Wanless, group chief executive, NatWest Group, said: "Ethics in business isn't just about integrity and honesty, it's about the values of the people you work with and the way you balance different stakeholder interests."

Mr Wanless is one of the judges for the competition. The others include Peter Stothard, Editor of The Times; Rabbi Julia Neuberger, chairman of Camden and Islington Community Health Services NHS Trust; John Monks, General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress; and John Drummond, managing director, Integrity Works.

They will select the best six essays, and the authors will be invited to debate the dilemma and a further development at Food Chain Stores with the judges. From the six will be selected the winner, who will receive a first prize of £3,000, plus a £3,000 award for their university or college. The second and third will receive prizes of £2,000 and £1,000, with matching cheques for their colleges. The winning essay will also be published in The Times.

All NatWest student branches have application forms for the competition, the closing date for which is January 31. Entry forms are also available from Paul Osgood, NatWest Group, Corporate Affairs Department, 2nd floor, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.

The judges will meet to decide a shortlist during February. In March, the finalists will be invited to debate their entries with the judges.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Ways to assess and support pension scheme trustees

From the President, Pensions Management Institute
Sir, As President of the Pensions Management Institute, I was very surprised, although I was very disappointed, to have confirmed my suspicions by the survey on pension scheme trustees ("Pension trustees lacking expertise", November 1).

The Pensions Act 1995 places trustees centre stage in the running of pension schemes. They will be responsible for appointing the scheme's advisers and ensuring that the scheme is run to the standards set down in the regulations. It is vital that they are conversant with not

only their own scheme's trusteeship arrangements but also their own role and responsibilities set out in the Act.

In my experience, the majority of large schemes try to ensure that the trustees are well trained, but, surprisingly, too few of them ask their trustees to undertake the independent assessment of their knowledge, which is provided by the Trustee Certificate of the record, over 400 rather than the 45 trustees quoted in the survey have passed the Certificate, including all the trustees of the ICI Pension Fund.

Because the Institute is

Hong Kong encourages savings

From Mr R. V. Munden
Sir, In Graham Searjeant's otherwise excellent article ("Ageing lion should learn from the tigers", October 30), it was incorrect to say that "in Hong Kong, for instance, there are generous allowances against income tax, and allowances for dependent parents".

There is no income tax in Hong Kong; the nearest equivalent is salaries tax, and this fundamental difference in the tax regime has social and financial consequences which outweigh the effects of any family allowances.

The most important effect is to encourage saving. As dividends (and capital gains) are

Chancellor should allow £6,000 a year to be earned free of tax

From Francis K. K. Ching
Sir, The tax on bank deposit interest has not been commented on in your recent coverage on the reform of capital gains tax and inheritance tax.

I feel that we should not ignore the unfairness of this tax on interest and its impact on the average taxpayer.

We do not have any statistics on individual saving levels. However, using the yearly maximum amounts allowed to save in a Tessa account as a guideline, the average person will receive about £2,000 total interest in five years' time. The total interest would have been about £1,500 after deduction of 25 per cent income tax if a similar amount was invested in a bank deposit account. Therefore, we are talking about a £500 tax benefit if we commit our savings to a five-year Tessa term.

In other words, the saver receives £100 tax benefit on average every year. This is

Halifax house values

From Mr Bernard N. Steven-Fountain
Sir, I see that house prices continue to fall, 1.3 per cent over the last year, according to the Halifax, or 3.9 per cent, according to the Nationwide (November 2).

If I were in the market for a house, I should be sure to buy one through the Halifax, as they seem to hold their value better, or am I missing something?

Yours faithfully, BERNARD N. STEVEN-FOUNTAIN, 32 Westbourne Park Road, Bournemouth, Dorset.

Letters to the Business section can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.



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Modest gains in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1995 High Low Company Price % CHG										1995 High Low Company Price % CHG									
BANKS										DISTRIBUTORS									
278.00	278.00	278.00	278.00	278.00	278.00	278.00	278.00	278.00	278.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BREWERIES										DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BUILDING & CONSTRUCT										ELECTRICITY									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BUILDING MATERIALS										ELECTRONIC & ELECT									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
BUSINESS SERVICES										ENGINEERING									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
CHEMICALS										INSURANCE									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
ENGINEERING VEHICLES										HOUSEHOLD GOODS									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
FOOD MANUFACTURERS										MEDIA									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
HEALTHCARE										OTHER FINANCIAL									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
LEISURE & HOTELS										RETAILERS FOOD									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
MINING										RETAILERS GENERAL									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
OIL & GAS										TRANSPORT									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
PROPERTY										WATER									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
TELECOMMUNICATIONS										BRITISH FUNDS									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
TEXTILES & APPAREL										SHORTS (under 5 years)									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
UNLISTED										LONGS (over 15 years)									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
INDEX-Linked										MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
INVESTMENT TRUSTS										INDEX-Linked									
100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

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United Biscuits sells bulk of Keebler for \$500m

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

UNITED BISCUITS (Holdings) signalled its withdrawal from the American market yesterday as it disposed of the bulk of Keebler, its troubled US biscuit subsidiary, to a joint bid for \$500 million.

The sale of Keebler's cookies and crackers division to Flowers Industries, a specialist food manufacturer based in Georgia, and Arta, the American arm of Arta SA Investments, a privately controlled Belgian investment fund, matched recent City expectations. However, the sale figure was well below the initial asking price of \$800 million.

The City gave a lukewarm reception to the news and UB's shares closed only 7p up, at 268p. There was concern that the expected sale of Keebler's two other divisions, salty snacks and frozen foods, would also fail to match market expectations.

UB announced that the sale proceeds will be used to reduce heavy debts and to

refocus on the Asian and European markets. The company will keep the ownership of the Keebler brand outside of the US, allowing a planned expansion in the Far East, and especially in China, to continue unaffected.

Colin Short, chairman, said: "Keebler has performed disappointingly in difficult circumstances and this has put considerable pressure on UB's management and financial resources. We can now pursue the development of our group with renewed vigour and exploit the full potential of our businesses in Europe and Asia Pacific."

The sale marks the end of a 21-year foray into the American market for UB that has turned increasingly sour. Although Keebler's cookie and cracker division has the second biggest market share in the US, it has been unable to erode Nabisco's huge lead, in spite of an expensive restructuring programme, which was launched this year.

Keebler incurred a £4 million loss at the half-year stage, compared with a £30.2 million profit in 1994. But its performance, in spite of annual sales of £1 billion, had been regarded as unsatisfactory for a number of years.

UB has come under increasing pressure to act decisively after three profit warnings in just four months and a cut in its dividend from 5.5p to 3.5p, giving UB the dubious distinction of being the first leading food producer to make a cut for 17 years.

United Biscuits announced a loss at the half-year stage of £48.6 million, down from a profit of £76.2 million at the same stage in 1994. UB was also forced to withdraw from the Spanish market in July and lost its FT-SE 100 status as its share price, 400p in 1993, has fallen.

Tempus, page 28



Spinning ahead: Mike Derbyshire, left, chief executive of Whitecroft, the industrial holding company, with John Hall, executive director of the group's specialist materials division, after reporting interim profit of £3.45 million, before tax and exceptional items, against £2.83 million. The interim dividend will be increased to 1.75p from 1.5p.

Blacks finds way out of the red

Blacks Leisure, the sports goods and leisure retailer, returned to profit in the first half in spite of the adverse impact of the hot summer on demand for some equipment.

Pre-tax profits were £736,000 (£53,000 loss) in the six months to August 31, with earnings of 1.59p (0.62p loss) a share. The interim dividend is unchanged, at 0.75p a share, due on February 4. The shares fell 2p to 48p.

Safeland rise

Safeland, the property trading and investment company, reported a 12 per cent rise in net assets, to 37p a share, in the six months to September 30. The interim dividend is 0.9p (0.86p) a share, payable on March 7. Pre-tax profits eased to £1.03 million (£1.09 million), while earnings were 2.77p (2.89p). The shares were unchanged, at 27p.

Lynx ahead

Lynx Holdings, the computer products and services company, reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £2.56 million (£2 million) for the year to September 30. Earnings fell to 3.73p (4.5p) a share. The total dividend is 1.55p (1.4p) a share, with a final 1.15p due on February 1.

Schroders wins favour of Bonn

By COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

SCHROEDERS, the City investment bank, has been asked by the Bonn Government to value Deutsche Postbank, Germany's largest savings bank, in a move set to infuriate Deutsche Bank, which is the leading German commercial bank.

Ulrich Cartellieri, a Deutsche Bank director, launched a bitter attack in a recent meeting with Christian Democrat politicians on the Government's "incomprehensible tendencies" in inviting foreign investment banks to examine the financial ideas of German institutions.

Postbank, separated from the state postal authority in 1990 as a step towards privatisation, has been trying to fend off a DM3 billion hostile bid for 75 per cent of the bank from a consortium headed by the German post office and in which Deutsche Bank has a 20 per cent stake. Swiss Re, the insurer, is a key partner.

Government opposition to the hostile bid, which has also

upset the German savings banks, came last month when Wolfgang Bösch, the Post Minister, dropped his earlier support for the offer and declared that the bid price was DM1 billion too low.

Schroders, which won the valuation commission from Bonn in competition with its leading US rivals, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, Salomon Brothers and Morgan Stanley, will submit an initial report to the German authorities in January.

Günter Schneider, head of Postbank, recently welcomed a counterbid for 35 per cent of the bank from a consortium that included Volksfürsorge, the insurer, BHP-Bank, and BHW, a construction finance company.

The Postbank takeover battle started after the failure of months of talks between the post office and the savings bank on an agreement to replace a co-operation pact concerning 17,000 retail outlets that expires next year.

Business Post Group advances

BUSINESS Post Group, the parcels and express mail company, lifted profits 39 per cent in the half year to September 30, reflecting strong organic growth and improved management of transport costs (Maurin Barrow writes).

Pre-tax profits advanced to £5.9 million, from £3.3 million, with a rise in operating margins to 18.7 per cent from 15.6 per cent. Turnover rose to £30.5 million, from £23.6 million, and the company said it had enjoyed a similar 29 per cent increase in turnover in October.

The interim dividend is increased to 3p a share, from 1.9p, payable on January 4 from earnings that rose to 7.9p a share, from 5.1p.

Peter Kane is stepping down after 25 years as chairman to become a non-executive director.

The new chairman is Neil Benson, a non-executive director since March 1993. Mr Kane's brother, Michael, became chief executive last month.

Graduate moves into media sector

By MARTIN BARROW

GRADUATE Appointments, the recruitment company, is diversifying into the media sector.

Graduate is acquiring Framstore, a digital and video post-production company, and Forward Publishing, which produces magazines for companies such as NatWest Bank and Marks & Spencer. After these acquisitions, Graduate will change its name to Megalomed, pending shareholder approval.

The vendor is Landau Enterprises, an offshore company in which several directors of Graduate are beneficially interested. These include Mr Saatchi, Josephine Hart and Christopher Parker. Consideration for the acquisition is primarily in the form of Graduate shares.

Shares in Graduate, which trade on the Alternative Investment Market, were suspended at 33p yesterday. With a maximum consideration payable of 37.68 million

shares, the two businesses being acquired could be valued at £12.4 million.

Framstore specialises in the post-production of commercials, channel promotions, title sequences and digital effects. In television graphics, it has post-produced for the BBC, ITV, BSkyB and Channel 4. During the last four years, turnover has virtually doubled. Turnover in the year to April 30 was about £5 million, with profits of £750,000.

Forward's turnover was £6.7 million in the year ended March 31. Pre-tax profits were £1.2 million, although this will not be repeated in the current year because of the loss of a big contract.

Christopher Parker will be chief executive of the enlarged company. A chartered accountant, Mr Parker was chief operating officer worldwide of Saatchi & Saatchi Communications until 1990. He became a director of Graduate in August last year.

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Tupperware holds a popular party

FROM RICHARD THOMSON
IN NEW YORK

EVERY 2.6 seconds of every day, somewhere in the world, groups of women gather for a Tupperware party. Nearly 85 million people attended them last year. It is a staggering thought - no wonder the plastic food containers have become an icon of Western suburban culture.

And now investors are being invited to the party because Fremark International, Tupperware's owner, has decided to hive it off by giving shares to its own shareholders after deciding Tupperware

does not fit with its other products such as food equipment and filing.

Tupperware is no cottage industry: it makes profits of \$200 million on annual sales of \$1.3 billion. It has 730,000 sales "consultants" - mostly housewives aged between 20 and 35 who work part-time for up to \$50,000 a year commission.

The company was founded 50 years ago by Earl Tupper, who worked for DuPont when the chemicals group was experimenting with plastics. He discovered how to refine the black oily slag from this process and inject it into molds. Tupperware containers hit the stores in

1945, the first catalogue was published the following year, and in 1947 the special Tupperware seal - modelled on that of paint pots - was added to the design.

But housewives, it seems, were suspicious. So Tupper pulled his products off the shelves and the concept was born of the Tupperware party in which a woman could demonstrate the merits of the new containers to her friends.

By the 1950s, Tupperware and its partner were established as a cultural tradition in suburban America. International sales now account for 80 per cent of its business.

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LAW

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● LAW REPORT 39

Illegible writing and long letters won't get you an interview, Caroline Turner finds

The art of job application

Now is the time when law students eagerly await the post for news of whether they have got a training contract for 1997. Rather late, I wrote 28 applications for contracts. Most firms stopped accepting applications by September, so I could write only to those few whose deadlines had not passed, or whom I hoped to persuade to make an exception.

Obtaining an interview, particularly with a small firm, is a feat in itself when it is common to have hundreds of applications for one or two jobs. Fashionable small firms get as many, or more, applications than the major City firms. For example, Stephens Innocent, which takes on only one trainee per year, has had about 2,000 applications, the same number as Clifford Chance, the largest firm, with 120 places on offer, while Allen & Overy had 1,500 applicants for 65 jobs.

Nicola Solomon, a partner at Stephens Innocent, says that the high numbers applying does not surprise her because the firm is high profile and works in a sought-after area — media law and civil liberties. But how do the smaller firms, without the benefits of large personnel departments, sift through mounds of applications?

Ms Solomon says she rejects those with less than a 2.1 degree, anyone who says they have "inter-personal skills", illegible writing and letters longer than one page. She looks for people with media or civil liberties experience rather than those straight out of college.

Ian Bloom, of Bloom Camfilin, which had 400 applications for two places, looks for something distinctive in the application, which must be well written. The worst ones might say: "Do not bin this, I am desperate for a job." Others are too knowing, and might say: "Everyone on planet Earth has told me that you are the only firm worth applying to," but when asked who recommended the firm, they cannot answer.

Mr Bloom says he regrets he cannot offer more than one or two jobs to hundreds of able candidates: "I'm upset on behalf of people who are applying against ferocious odds."

James Robinson, of Brown Cooper, which had about 300 applications for one place, also rejects those with less than a 2.1 degree, and considers "counterproductive" letters which say what a wonderful firm Brown Cooper is, which



Caroline Turner listed theatre as an interest, but discovered employers looked for hobbies showing responsibility

they cannot possibly know. Ironically, there is a slightly better chance of an interview at one of the larger firms, although Linklaters & Paine had 3,000 to 4,000 applicants for an intake of 120, and Simmons & Simmons 3,000 applicants for 50 places.

Claire Maurice, of Allen & Overy, points out that the numbers applying to the major City firms are probably swelled by those who do not particularly want to work in the City, but do want their Legal Practice Course paid for — a perk worth about £5,000 which the City firms offer, along with a maintenance grant. Others, in the absence of a local education authority

grant, have to pay their way. Tricia Brett, the recruitment administrator at Macfarlanes, (1,600 applicants for 15 jobs) says they look for good academic qualifications and responsibility, such as running the University Law Society or being captain of a team. "We do not want just a member of a society, but a person who does some work for it."

Simmons & Simmons looks for academic achievement and evidence of ability to work in teams. Personnel director Anita Tovell says: "It could be anything from a sports team to a choir. Conversely, a person's hobbies may indicate that they are loners."

The long, complex application forms favoured by some of the larger firms do not seem to deter many applicants despite the big blank spaces left for questions such as "Why do you want to be a solicitor and why do you want to work for us?" and "What are your greatest achievements to date?" Clifford Chance asked applicants to "Describe an achievement of importance to you", while Nabarro Nathanson asked: "What experience was the most rewarding and why?" Hayley Grant, graduate recruitment officer at Lovell White Durrant, says what is important is the way an answer to these open questions is conveyed rather than what is said.

Macfarlanes makes the applicants state their "principal interests and leisure activities", and then how they contribute to and benefit from them.

My interests included theatre, cinema, books and travel. I supposed my contribution was paying for the tickets or book, and my benefit was enjoying the show, holiday or read. It seemed a silly question, but now I realise they were looking for people who had been chairman of the JCR or captain of the netball team.

In reply to my 28 applications, I have had seven acknowledgements, four letters saying I am too late, five rejections and two invitations for interviews — one for a major firm and one for a small, specialist firm. Apart from these applications, I have had one offer of paralegal work for next summer, following a summer placement this year.

Despite the overload of would-be-lawyers, competition between firms for the best graduates is still as keen as ever, says Claire Maurice of Allen & Overy. "There never seems to be enough really good people."

Why judges cannot avoid politics

Locating the boundary between law and politics is one of the most difficult problems in a democracy. In an important contribution to the debate, Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, the Shadow Lord Chancellor, gave the annual lecture of the Administrative Law Bar Association last month. His theme was "the constitutional imperative of judicial self-restraint" in applying the principles of judicial review of administrative action.

Lord Irvine's powerful advocacy sought to persuade his audience of the dangers of judges interfering with the decisions of ministers and civil servants except where there is "manifest absurdity". Courts must do nothing to cause "fears of judicial supremacism". The judiciary must resist the temptation to become involved in "a process of policy evaluation which goes far beyond its allotted constitutional role". Ministers must be the judges of whether they have acted in a procedurally fair manner, unless their procedures are "so unfair that they could not have been reasonably adopted".

To paraphrase Dr Johnson, when a man knows that he is soon to be a minister, it concentrates his mind wonderfully. The Labour Party's confidence that it will form the next government is causing potential ministers to ponder the considerable inconvenience of judges having the power to find that departmental decisions are unfair or unreasonable. As Labour politicians well recall, for every Pergau Dam (or other case in which a Conservative minister has acted unlawfully) there is a Tameside, Congreve or Laker Airways (or other cases in which the court found against a Labour minister from 1974 to 1979).

abuse of power by the executive, unfairness is very unlikely to be remedied by any other means.

Lord Irvine's plea that judges must stay out of policy debates is more than a little difficult to reconcile with his support, and that of the Labour Party, for the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law. His approach to public law adjudication would also require our judges to adopt a self-denying ordinance which would set them apart from their colleagues in other member states of the European Union, and in New Zealand and Australia, who apply stricter standards to test the propriety of administrative decisions by reference to doctrines such as proportionality, legitimate expectations, and due regard for fundamental rights, all of which are rejected by Lord Irvine.

The argument advanced by Lord Irvine is that judicial self-restraint is required under the present law of the United Kingdom "in deference to the sovereignty of Parliament". But judges are well aware of the constitutional reality that Parliament exercises very little control over the content of primary legislation, let alone delegated legislation or administrative decisions. Nor can Parliament realistically be expected to do so, given the growth in the business of government and in the number of discretionary powers conferred. Constitutional fictions are an unattractive basis for seeking to encourage judges to restrain themselves when they are asked to provide remedies for the victims of injustice or unfairness.

Parliament itself has said nothing in any statute about the standard of judicial review. So extreme judicial self-restraint has no greater claim to parliamentary approval than a judicial policy of giving a remedy for abuses of power that result in unfair or unreasonable decisions. If Parliament is taken implicitly to have approved judicial intervention where ministers and civil servants have "taken leave of their senses" (as Lord Irvine accepts), it is difficult to see why Parliament cannot equally be understood to have implicitly approved stricter standards of judicial intervention.

The standards which public law should apply do not depend on self-evident principles of parliamentary sovereignty. They depend on the conception we choose to adopt of the role of the judiciary in a modern society. Lord Irvine's provocative lecture confirms that the conception adopted by ministers, and potential ministers, is unlikely to be shared by the governed.

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



DAVID PANNICK QC

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Hard Labour?

PAUL BOATENG, the Labour Party's legal affairs spokesman, and Martin Mears, president of the Law Society, came to verbal blows last week in after-dinner speeches at the annual dinner of the London Solicitors Litigation Association.

Both made clear that neither would give the other an easy ride. Boateng reminded lawyers of his duty to tackle "Spanish practices and customs", and to curb legal aid (£1.6 billion was "enough"). To pretend there would be more money for lawyers under Labour was "a nonsense". But he did extend an olive branch — Labour wanted to invest in the "infrastructure" which enabled lawyers to do their jobs, provided they put their house in order.

work free a year, Mears said that for a man reputed to earn between £750,000 and £1 million, such an offer amounted to "petty cash".

Harmless secrets
THIRTY TWO retired or serving judges are Freemasons, according to the 1995 Masonic Year Book. The analysis by the Labour Research trade unionists' group comes as MPs prepare for an inquiry into Freemasonry in the judiciary and police by the Home Affairs Select Committee. Some of the judges or other legal figures have explained their reasons for becoming members.

In today's *The Lawyer*, Lord Justice Millett, a member of the Chancery Bar lodge, and Sir Maurice Drake, a retired High Court judge, who joined a lawyers' lodge called Justitia in 1948, deny any influence from their membership. Lord Justice Millett says that when he told Lord Hailsham he was a Freemason, the former Lord Chancellor "just laughed". "We claim to have secrets but they are harmless. There is nothing in the slightest bit sinister. If anything, they are really rather ridiculous," he says.

INNS AND OUTS



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RONNIE BERGENTHAL, a racing enthusiast, divides his time between his criminal practice at the Bar and the Hackney greyhound stadium in east London.

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how to devise a fast economical way of litigating small negligence claims that she has launched an informal competition.

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The contest will close in February, when doctors, lawyers and health managers are due to meet for a conference on the thorny problem.

First blood
THE Investors Compensation Scheme (ICS) last week won the first skirmish in its multimillion-pound action against the Cheltenham & Gloucester. Its legal team is led by Dennis Brock, partner at Clifford Chance, and Murray Pickering, QC.

Kate Moore, senior solicitor at the ICS, said: "We chose a reputable City firm that knows the score on this type of litigation, and has the resources. It's pretty high-profile stuff, and if we bring in the 200 or so solicitors who advised on these plans, it will become a multiparty action."

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The members of Assize Court Chambers are pleased to announce the following: Mr John Isherwood has been elected Head of Chambers. He succeeds Mr Graeme Wood, who will continue to practice from Chambers.

Mr David Curwen (of 1 Gray's Inn Square, London) and Mr Myles Watkins (of 2 Gray's Inn Square Chambers, London) have accepted invitations to join Chambers. They will both continue to practice from their London Chambers.

Victoria Huxford has accepted an invitation to join Chambers, following the completion of her pupillage.

Members of Chambers are now as follows:

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John Tackaberry QC+
Graeme Wood
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Confidentiality of information passed from patient to therapist is under challenge in the United States, where the Supreme Court will decide the matter soon

A client confidence too far

Should what you say to your therapist be protected from disclosure in the courts? James D. Zirin reports

When a patient consults a psychotherapist, can his or her communications be revealed in court? The Supreme Court of the United States is soon to answer this question in an important case that could have serious implications for both the legal and mental health communities.

To a traumatised generation, plagued by violence and killings in a variety of settings, psychotherapy has gained professional legitimacy. The discipline is concerned with the patient's emotional wellbeing, which is treated through a series of therapeutic sessions with the professional. The sessions are based on trust and full disclosure. Although Freud was said to have gossiped about those he treated, the patient is supposed to be assured that his innermost thoughts and feelings may be expressed in total confidence and without fear of revelation.

Confidentiality in therapy fosters candour, permits necessary emotional release and promotes free self-evaluation. But what happens if the communications are relevant in litigation and a party to the controversy seeks to compel disclosure? Does a privilege exist to protect the patient? Surely this is an issue which never occurred to Sigmund Freud.

Though it did not exist in common law, all 50 American states have engrained upon their legal system some form of psycho-

therapist-patient privilege. Some state courts have even held therapeutic communications to fall within a "zone of privacy" protected under the Constitution. In federal cases, however, there are no clearly articulated privileges. Such matters, according to a rule issued by the Supreme Court in 1973, are "governed by the principles of common law as they may be interpreted by the courts of the United States in the light of reason and experience". This could mean almost anything.

In applying "reason and experience" to the issue, three federal appellate circuits have recognised some form of privilege in civil and criminal cases, while four circuits have rejected the privilege as something which did not exist in common law.

The case currently before the Supreme Court involves Mar Lu Redmond, a suburban Chicago policewoman sued for wrongful death by the family of a suspect whom she shot and killed as the suspect was allegedly about to stab another with a butcher's knife. There were numerous eyewitnesses to the incident, many of whom testified at the trial, as did Officer Redmond.

The plaintiff sought to question Officer Redmond about her com-

munications with the clinical social worker whom she had consulted about the traumatic and tragic event she had experienced in the line of duty. The officer refused to answer on ground of privilege, but the judge, holding that there was no federal privilege protecting disclosures by a patient to a clinical social worker, ordered her to testify. Officer Redmond, determined not to reveal communications with her therapist, disclaimed recollection of what she had said. The plaintiff then subpoenaed the therapist to testify and to produce her notes of the sessions. When the trial judge refused to quash the subpoena, the therapist gave only limited testimony and produced the notes in edited form. The trial judge instructed the jury that it could draw an adverse inference from Officer Redmond's refusal to authorise the therapist to disclose the complete notes, stating that the jury could presume the notes to be unfavourable to the officer. The jury found in favour of the plaintiff.

Reversing the judgment of the lower court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit affirmed the psychotherapist-patient privilege and ordered a new trial. The Supreme Court will review that decision.

While the policy of the law would

disfavour all privileges since they are impediments to getting at the truth, a psychotherapeutic communication should be on the same footing as a patient's confidential communication with a physician, a client's with a lawyer or a penitent's with a priest — all well recognised privileges at common law. Forced disclosure of an entrusted confidence to a psychotherapist is considered inherently wrong, since it undercuts the basis of a communication given and received on the premise of confidentiality.

Unlike the Redmond case, where the psychiatric communications were additional to other evidence, there are many situations where such evidence is pivotal. Would "reason and experience" require, for example, that the courts protect psychotherapist-patient communications where the proof is the only way to establish responsibility for a brutal criminal act?

In the Menendez case in California, where two brothers shot and killed their parents, the defendants denied complicity and were successful in eluding detection until Erik Menendez confessed the crime to his psychologist six months after the event. The psychologist's girlfriend overheard the admission

and notified the police. The judge ordered the psychologist to produce his tape-recorded notes of the therapeutic sessions with both brothers after the psychologist testified he believed they were threatening him and others during the sessions. There is in California no privilege if you threaten the doctor.

The murder trial ended in a jury disagreement, and the retrial is expected to begin shortly. In criminal matters, especially, society has a compelling interest in eliciting all relevant evidence.

But truth, like certain forms of psychiatry, may cost too much. Weighing the competing interests, it is better to encourage people to seek psychotherapy by respecting the confidentiality of the sessions than to assure society of an unfettered fact-finding process essential to the delivery of justice?

Meanwhile in Britain the position is clear. Psychotherapists and their patients have no protection. Dr Marnie Sher, chairman of the ethics committee of the British Association of Psychotherapists, said: "Solicitors are the only professionals who enjoy privileged communications with clients. Courts can order psychotherapists to disclose what patients have told them — although they have to have good reason. Further, if a patient admits a crime, then there is a duty on the therapist to report it."

● The author, a trial lawyer, is a partner in Brown & Wood, a New York law firm.

In-house rivals oust City firms

International companies avoid expensive London lawyers, says Edward Fennell

Corporate clients of big City law firms have been forcing down the level of legal fees for some time. Now a new lever on the City lawyer has emerged in the shape of in-house lawyers working with international companies. Last week at a meeting in Amsterdam, one Dutch lawyer said: "London lawyers are now the most expensive in the world. I avoid them if I possibly can." A German speaker added: "If it comes to taking a matter to arbitration I would now prefer to go to Paris rather than London. It is much cheaper."

Are City law firms pricing themselves out of the in-house market? Delegates from top companies such as Procter & Gamble, Volkswagen and German computer software company Sap all made clear that they now take a careful strategic view of their use of outside lawyers.

Barry O'Meara, former deputy group solicitor at ICI and now a consultant to Rowe & Maw, said the need for expertise in specialist fields and the inevitable peaks and troughs in work meant no in-house team could be self-sufficient. But achieving "the best possible balance" between in-house and outside legal services was critical.

The in-house counsel can do most of the work, such as in-depth briefings about the business context, when hiring outside lawyers with specialist skills. But external lawyers also need a good grip on the industrial sectors in which they work. "It's crucial that you should know your clients and their main objectives and the fields in which they're working," Mr O'Meara said. Business awareness from outside law firms was also highlighted by Hans Peter Frick, senior vice-president and general counsel at Nestlé. But as an international

company, his legal advisers had to be immersed in the local scene. "I want my external lawyers to know the right people and have the right social contacts as well as being good quality legal experts."

One senior in-house counsel said: "I still want to go to the best local law firm rather than using a multinational US or UK firm. Despite the growth of these large global law firms there are still small outsiders."

Multinational firms have a long way to go, therefore, before they match the recognised status of the big six accountancy firms. KPMG's forensic accounting service used the Amsterdam conference to promote the idea that in-house counsel should come direct to them for advice over fraud and linked issues.

The accountants also latched on to the chance to sell their wider expertise in fields such as IT. Hans Viggo van Hulsén, chief counsel at Volkswagen, said that he had been sceptical at first about the potential of IT for in-house lawyers. But with a growing number of UK clients, he is now keen for electronic links with his outside lawyers.

Within ten years, Mr O'Meara predicted, in-house counsel would lead the way in creating the "virtual" law service. Already, Graeme Fawcett, of the oil equipment company Cooper Cameron, works in this way. With responsibilities across Europe and Africa, he spends much time between sites. His office is effectively a computer system shared with one other lawyer based in the US. As for external legal advice, he has dispensed with a prominent global firm and opted for local firms such as Taylor Joynson in London, which are better adapted to his way of working.

Times Law Awards

STUDENTS are invited to submit entries of not more than 1,000 words on "Advocacy — what is its future?" for this year's Times Law Awards, held in association with the chambers of Anthony Grabner, QC, at 1 Essex Court, London. First prize is £3,000, second £2,000 and third £1,000. There are three runner-up prizes of £250 each. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, heads the judges. Entries should be sent to: The Times Law Awards, 1 Essex Court, Temple, London EC4Y 9AR, to arrive by December 1.

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CITY Market leader in this field requires an additional assistant to join their highly regarded team. Candidates should possess 2-4 years' PQE gained with a reputable practice and a pragmatic and ambitious approach. Excellent remuneration. Ref: T938.	CAPITAL MARKETS Leading medium City firm requires additional assistants for their diverse media group, with a particular emphasis on telecoms and IT with an international flavour. Candidates should have a minimum of 2 years' PQE in this technical area and an interest in marketing. Ref: T963A.	CIS Major US practice actively seeks attorneys or solicitors to join one of its CIS offices. Candidates will demonstrate excellent Russian language proficiency coupled with a sound corporate/commercial background. Challenging opportunity. Ref: T1298.	CORPORATE Leading specialist firm seeks two assistants with 1-5 years' PQE. Candidates at the more junior level with general PT experience and willing to specialise will be considered. Exciting opportunity to join expanding practice. Ref: T1295.
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Forum for deciding title to company shares

First, there was a dual conflict rule, which allocated some issues to one country and others to another. Second, the issue in that case was as to who was entitled to the certificates, not as to the ownership of shares. The ownership of shares was to be determined by the law of the place where the shares were issued, the lex situs. In the ordinary way, unless they were negotiable instruments by English law, the answer was the law of the place where the company was incorporated. There might be cases where it was arguable that the law of the place where the shares were issued was the law of the place where the company was incorporated. But that problem did not arise today.

Fraud does not destroy refugee protection

On M's appeal the Immigration Appeal Tribunal had pointed out that M was fraudulent and that a person who put forward a fraudulent and baseless claim for asylum was not able to bring himself within the Convention. The issue which was raised was whether, despite a bogus claim, the applicant nevertheless came within the requirements of the Convention on the basis of making the asylum application. Unattractive though such an argument was, Mr Nicol asserted that by making the application, the applicant had proved to the requisite standard that he would be at risk of persecution if he was returned to Zaire as a failed asylum seeker.

In *R v IAT, Ex parte Senge* (unreported, March 9, 1994) the issue was whether the very fact of making the asylum application might itself create the possibility of persecution by the authorities for a Convention reason. Mr Justice Laws had said that it was "erroneous as a matter of law to hold that there can never be a case in which, by the very act of claiming asylum, an applicant puts himself at risk of persecution".

Expressed as a matter of law Mr Justice Laws was correct. But, as Mr Nicol accepted, in practice to rely on the making of an application rather than its contents would be exceptional: an extremely rare case, but hypothetically possible. In a fraudulent application based on false facts in which the applicant's story was disbelieved, his credibility would be called in question and even if he could establish he did not set up the application for asylum to create a

danger of persecution, he would be likely to find it extremely difficult to demonstrate to the required standard a genuine subjective fear coming within the definition of the Convention. An unsuccessful claim for asylum might be seen within a spectrum ranging from a truthful but over-optimistic account through various degrees of inaccuracy to a totally false and fraudulent story. The making of a false claim could not act as a total barrier to reconsideration of the applicant's status as a possible refugee, but the further along the spectrum of falsehood and bogus claims the infinitely more difficult it would be to prove to the requisite standard the requirements of the Convention.

It was important not to underestimate the difficulties for an applicant after exposure of his bogus claim for asylum. Neither the secretary of state nor the appellate tribunals were to be expected to suspend disbelief in the assessment of applications. In the instant case, he tribunal found as a matter of principle that any person who put forward a fraudulent and baseless claim could not thereafter bring himself within the Convention. It was in error.

But the matter did not end there as the tribunal had gone on to consider the merits of the case. Having done so it had come to a decision on the facts which was unsustainable. Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Ward gave concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Hereward & Foster, North Woolwich; Treasury Solicitor.

Termination of contract was occasion of loss

Before Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Schiemann. [Judgment November 2] The wrongful termination by a solicitor of a retainer to act for a client in proceedings for ancillary relief for herself against her former husband, following which the client herself submitted to the court a defective application for relief, then remarried and therefore effectively lost the right to claim relief for herself, was the occasion of the client suffering damage and not the cause of it.

In the circumstances, the solicitor could not reasonably be expected to have foreseen the client's actions, whether separately or in combination, after the breach of contract. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal of the defendant solicitor, Jervis L. Purdy, a sole practitioner, against the judgment of Mr Justice Goff QC, sitting as a judge of the High Court when on May 11, 1994, he gave judgment for the plaintiff, Theresa Young, on a preliminary hearing on liability, with damages to be assessed, in her action for damages for breach of contract in negligence for an alleged improper unilateral termination of the retainer. The Court of Appeal awarded nominal damages for breach of contract in the sum of £2.

Mr Guy Mansfield, QC and Mr Gavin Hamilton for the defendant solicitor; Mr Roderick Denyer, QC.

Breath specimen should have stood in evidence

Director of Public Prosecutions v Berry. Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, Mr Justice Scott Baker and Mr Justice Latham. [Judgment October 30] Where a person suspected of drink driving gave a positive breath sample that was low enough to ensure that he was able to offer a sample of blood or urine in its place, but partly as a consequence of the alcohol he had taken, he was unable to understand the choice available to him, he could not complain that he had been denied his rights and the evidence of the breath specimen was admissible. The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so observed when allowing the appeal of the Director of Public Prosecutions against the acquittal of Colin Berry by Bradford Justices on March 30, 1995 for driving after consuming alcohol in excess of the prescribed limit and remitting the case to the justices.

Section 8 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 provides: "(2) If the specimen with the lower proportion of alcohol contains no more than 50 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath, the person who provided it may claim that it should be replaced by such specimen as may be required under section 7(4) of this Act, and if he then provides such a specimen, neither specimen of breath shall be used." Section 7 provides: "(4) If the provision of a specimen other than a specimen of breath may be required in pursuance of this section the question whether it is to be a specimen of blood or a specimen of urine shall be decided by the constable making the requirement..."

Mr J. Benjamin Croftland for the DPP; the defendant did not appear and was not represented. MR JUSTICE SCOTT BAKER said that since the defendant's consumption of alcohol had contributed to his inability to comprehend the offer to him to replace the breath specimen with blood or urine he could not complain that the breath specimen became inadmissible. The question was whether the defendant had been deprived of his right to have the breath specimen replaced by blood or urine under sections 8(2) and 7(4) of the 1988 Act.

The clear inference from the facts was that the defendant's consumption of alcohol either caused or contributed to his inability to understand the offer to replace the breath specimen. The breath specimen should have stood in evidence. Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Latham agreed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Bradford.

Council need not pay all fees at school

Regina v Hackney London Borough Council, Ex parte C. Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Pill. [Judgment October 24] Where, in a statement of special educational needs, a local educational authority named a particular non-maintained school as appropriate for a child's education, it was not necessarily under a duty to pay all the child's fees at that school. The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by a child aged seven, C, against the refusal of Mr Justice Auld on July 1, 1994, to quash the decision of the London Borough of Hackney, the local education authority, not to pay C's fees at the non-maintained school it had specified as the appropriate school for his education in Part IV of a statement of special educational needs made pursuant to section 7 of the Education Act 1981, as substituted by section 257(1) and Schedule 12 to the Education Reform Act 1988.

Mr Philip Engelman for the child; Mr Clive Lewis for the local education authority. LORD JUSTICE PILL said that Mr Engelman had submitted that once a local education authority had prepared a statement of special educational needs pursuant to section 7 of the 1981 Act it was under a single indivisible duty to arrange provision of all the child's special educational needs and that it was not for the fees of any school named in Part IV of the statement, headed "appropriate school or other arrangement".

However, C's parents had had a firm and settled intention that C should attend an ordinary orthodox Jewish school. The local authority had considered that the non-maintained school favoured by the parents was suitable for C provided that the assistance of a special needs assistant was made available, for which the local authority was willing to pay. His Lordship would regard it as absurd if, by naming a school in a statement of special educational needs, the authority was held to be liable for all the fees at that school.

Lord Justice Henry agreed and Lord Justice Staughton gave a concurring judgment. Solicitors: Teacher Stern Selby; Mr C. R. Hinde, Hackney.

Forum for deciding title to company shares

First, there was a dual conflict rule, which allocated some issues to one country and others to another. Second, the issue in that case was as to who was entitled to the certificates, not as to the ownership of shares. The ownership of shares was to be determined by the law of the place where the shares were issued, the lex situs. In the ordinary way, unless they were negotiable instruments by English law, the answer was the law of the place where the company was incorporated. There might be cases where it was arguable that the law of the place where the shares were issued was the law of the place where the company was incorporated. But that problem did not arise today.

Whether it be situs, place of incorporation or place of share register, the answer was the law of the place where the company was incorporated. His Lordship therefore agreed with the conclusion reached by Mr Justice Millett, although he had reached it by a somewhat different route. Situs and incorporation had the advantage of pointing to one system of law which was unlikely to be transient and could not be manipulated by a purchaser of shares in order to gain priority. If a lender of money chose to take as security shares in companies incorporated in a number of different jurisdictions, he might have to make different inquiries as to each of them as to its title. He did not deserve much sympathy on that account, particularly as his Lordship did not know whether lenders were particularly diligent in making any inquiries at all.

Lord Justice Auld and Lord Justice Millett gave concurring judgments. Solicitors: Herbert Smith; Freshfields; Watson Parry & Williams; Clifford Chance.

THE TIMES TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7 1995

■ VISUAL ART 1

The rising generation goes centre-stage from the quirky Mark Wallinger at the Tate...



■ VISUAL ART 2

...to Gillian Wearing at the massive British Art Show — the Young Turks state their intent

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ VISUAL ART 3

...while in London the great Africa parade rolls on with shows of textiles and metalwork



■ TOMORROW

Postcard from Broadway: New York's top new shows reviewed by Benedict Nightingale

Richard Cork on the Tate's exhibition of Turner candidates and Manchester's British Art Show; plus London galleries

So far this autumn, the art of the past has dominated the blockbuster shows. But now contemporary work at its most challenging moves centre-stage. At the Tate Gallery the four shortlisted contenders for the Turner Prize limber up for the £20,000 award on November 28. And next Sunday the British Art Show opens in seven galleries throughout Manchester. By the time its national tour finishes in the summer of 1996, this large survey will also have given its 26 artists a comprehensive airing in Edinburgh and Cardiff.

As one of the British Art Show's selectors, along with Rose Finn-Kelcey and Thomas Lawson, I am in no position to assess its merits. But it could hardly be happening at a better moment. New art in this country enjoys an outstandingly high reputation today. Curators, critics and collectors in many different countries are excited about the vitality of British artists. Their work is galvanised by a strong sense of confidence, inventiveness and subversive humour. Far from lapsing into complacency over burgeoning international success, they continue to lace their images with disconcerting insights.

Take the Turner Prize show, where the Tate has at last given each of the front-runners the ample space they deserve. Despite the kerfuffle last week over the non-appearance of Damien Hirst's principal exhibit, he emerges very powerfully. *Mother and Child*, *Divided* may be dismissed by the tabloid press as a publicity stunt, but in my view it is one of his most impressive works. I first saw it at the 1993 Biennale in Venice, a city dominated by Renaissance paintings of sublime madonnas and their offspring. Hirst's sliced cow and calf offer a far bleaker view as we pass between their bodies, each eerily suspended in formaldehyde.

Mona Hatoum's work is almost as disquieting. Her *Corps étranger*, a video projected on to the circular floor of a claustrophobic chamber, was shown at the Tate earlier this year. It has lost none of its visceral impact. We stare down at the

The most satisfying Turner Prize survey I have seen

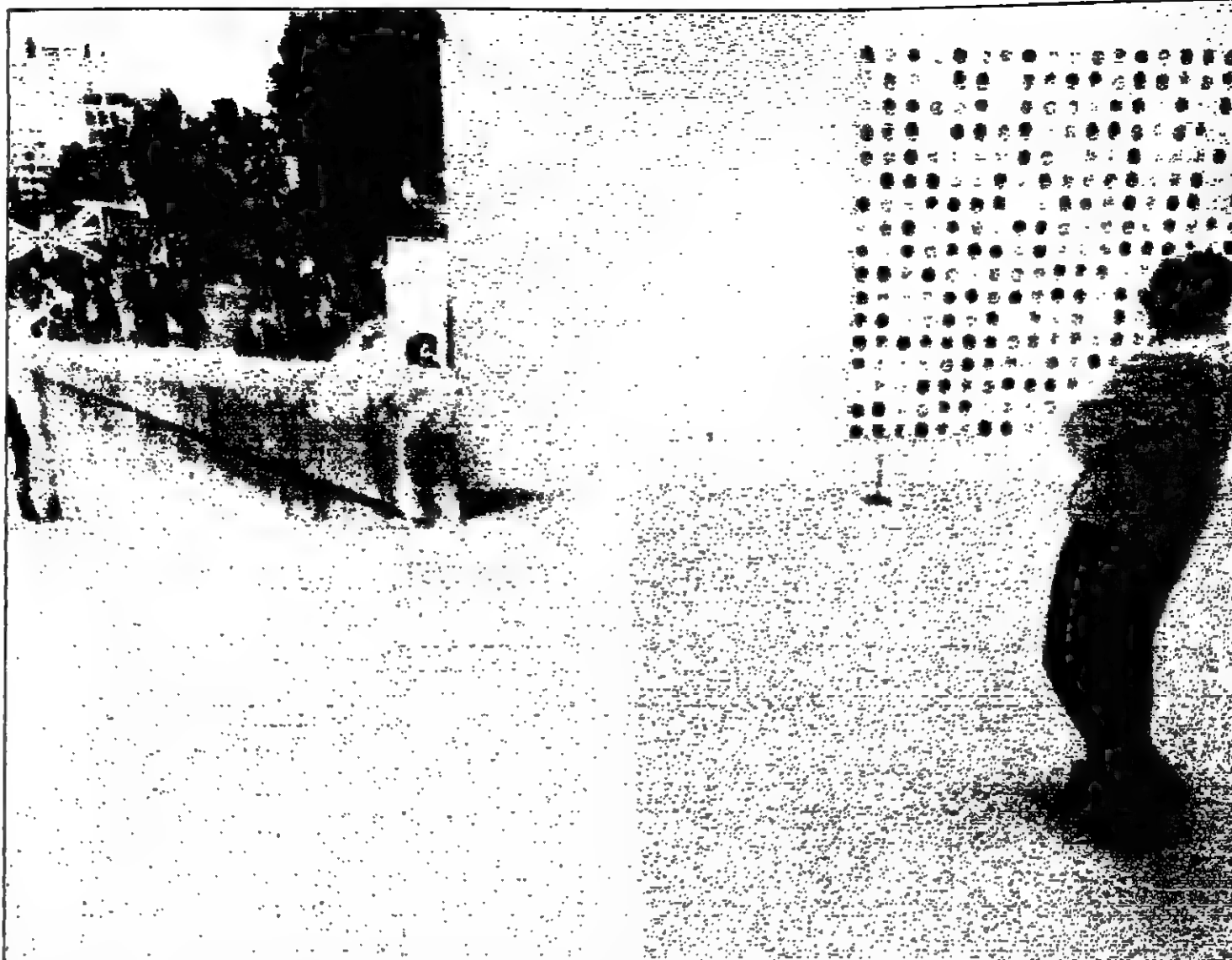
Hirst commands two fronts

images transmitted by minuscule medical cameras as they travel through the artist's body. Recordings of her heartbeats heighten the tension and air of vulnerability, whereas, in her other room, *Light Sentence* is utterly silent. A naked bulb, enclosed by stacks of wire-mesh lockers, moves slowly up and down. The complex shadows it casts on surrounding walls heighten the sense of melancholy constriction conveyed by the empty, seemingly abandoned cages.

Mark Wallinger, by contrast, is not afraid to deploy humour in his dissection of national life. At the Tate, his images concentrate on horse racing, and some of the large canvases seem as still and immaculate as Stubbs's horse paintings. Then we realise, with a shock, that each of Wallinger's stallions is a hybrid image. Two different animals cut in half, as abruptly as Hirst's sliced mother and child, only to be joined together in an incongruous whole.

For Wallinger, painting is only one medium among many. Callum Innes, however, is solely preoccupied with oil on canvas. This Edinburgh-based artist loads his brush with turpentine and washes away the colour already applied to the canvas. The results are arrestingly varied: sometimes the turpentine trails are left as a series of thin vertical stripes, running from the top of the picture to the base. On other occasions, the washing process begins to generate new forms, suggesting that Innes has no intention of adhering to absolute abstraction.

Innes is a refined and seductive artist, and his presence rounds off the most satisfying Turner Prize survey I have yet seen. Both Hirst and Wallinger are also included in *The British Art Show*, where their willingness to move freely from one medium to another typifies many of the contributors. At Upper



Works by Mark Wallinger (left) and Damien Hirst occupy adjacent rooms in the Tate Gallery's show of Turner Prize candidates

Campfield Market, a freshly converted Victorian building which provides Manchester with a spectacular new exhibition space, an extraordinary variety of work will be displayed alongside Hirst's celebrated floating sheep work, *Away from the Flock*.

Gary Hume is committed to painting, but he is heretical enough to employ shiny household gloss in

his determination to revitalise the figurative tradition. Kerry Stewart takes liberties with the figure in sculpture, drawing on charity statues as she explores adolescent sexuality and childhood fears.

The possibilities of photography are investigated in widely diverse ways. Gillian Wearing uses her camera in a documentary spirit, inviting people to write down their

spontaneous observations and pose beside them. But Jane and Louise Wilson take their camera indoors, using theatrical lighting and illusionism to explore mysterious rooms filled with ominous expectancy. Hermione Wiltshire incorporates photographic images of body parts in wall-works which arouse sensual responses and yet undermine them.

Elsewhere in the Market, visitors will move between extremes of experience. John Frankland's shining sculpture encloses a shed in a silvery, highly reflective coating. However much it attracts us, this beguiling structure cannot be entered. Christine Borland, on the other hand, lets us go into a Portakabin and explore all the bizarre and gruesome contents of

her *Black Museum*. To watch the artist Steve McQueen's powerful films in another exhibit, viewers will have to penetrate the darkness of the two rooms where they are projected. But Tacita Dean's film of a girl stowaway on a tall ship is shown in a space otherwise given over to a teasing blend of evidence about her elusive heroine.

Three more artists rely on their ability to transform everyday objects, ranging from Jordan Baseman's hair-clogged shirts and Ferrnindar Kaur's dagger-adorned dress to Lucia Nogueira's rug, mysteriously flanked by clusters of broken glass. Chris Ofili, however, does not interfere with the brazen reality of the elephant dung he applies to his meticulously crafted paintings, where William Blake vies with African art as the dominant influence.

Although the Market is by far the largest exhibition space, the other six galleries offer equally thought-provoking installations. At the Chinese Arts Centre, Mat Collishaw will transform the main space with his intricate video work. Anya Gallaccio is smothering the walls of the Castlefield Gallery with chocolate. And Douglas Gordon's mesmerising, large-screen film works will compel attention in the monumental interior of the Metropolitan Galleries, alongside Ceal Floyer's cunningly understated light-projection.

At the City Art Galleries, Georgina Starr is setting up an elaborate video ensemble based on childhood memories of a science-fiction film. But silence is restored at the Whitworth Art Gallery, where Bridget Smith's photographs of cinema interiors share the space with Marcus Taylor's luminous Perspex sculptures.

Finally, at Cornerhouse, Wallinger's work on the top floor is followed in the space below by two disturbing sets of images: Catherine Yass's unearthly light-box photographs of hospital corridors, and Julie Roberts's clinical paintings of mortuaries and dentists' chairs. The sense of unease continues on the lowest floor, where Sam Taylor-Wood's video installation combines everyday lassitude with intense, operatic emotion.

● The Turner Prize Exhibition at the Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (0171-887 8000) until Dec 3
● The British Art Show, Manchester (0161-453 4239) from Nov 12 until Feb 4

Wearing art on their sleeves

AROUND THE GALLERIES

VIVID colour and vibrant patterns are the trademark of the African textiles from the past 150 years now exhibited at the Barbican Art Gallery. But the welcoming figure of a giant Botero-like fabric coffin is an indication that this show is far more than the recreation of a sumptuous haberdashery store.

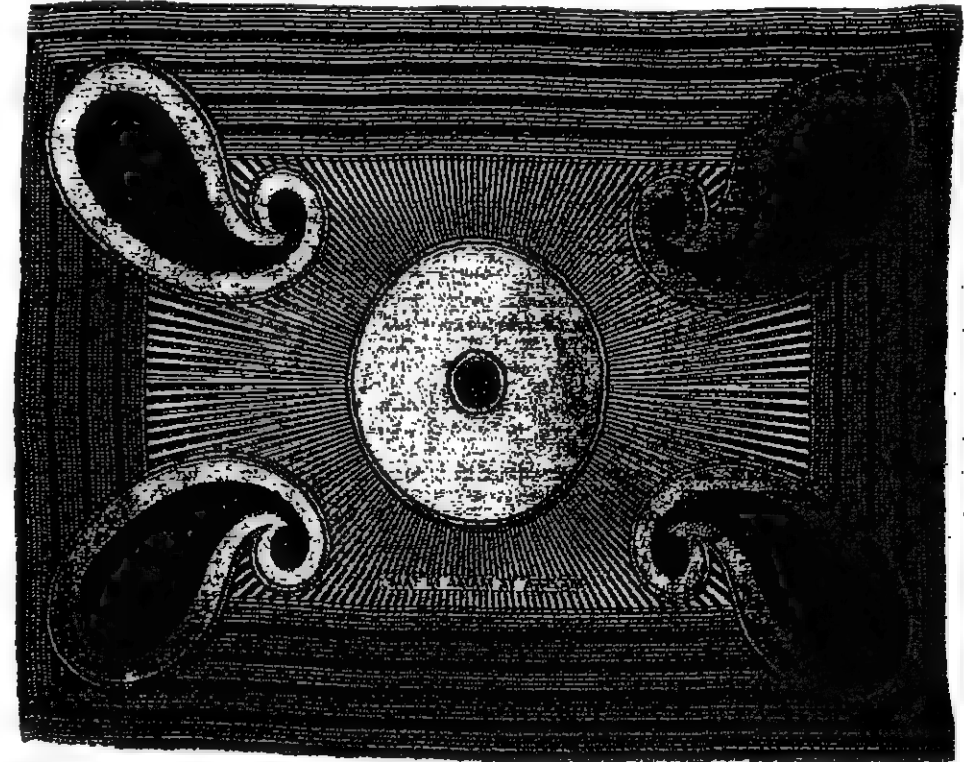
The coffin is of a type made out of blankets by Kongo artists in western Zaire early this century. High above is an Islamic hanging specially commissioned from leading Cairo tent-maker Salah El Din M. El Ozy, inscribed: "Say it to the one who knows it all. You might have learnt something, but many things have slipped you by."

The exhibition aims to inform, and includes textiles embodying a great variety of materials, designs and purposes. There are vast lengths of raffia-palm fibre made by Kuba weavers in Zaire both for funerary display and women's festive skirts. From Nigeria there are masquerade costumes and Yoruba head crowns; and from the Fante communities of the Ghanaian coast are military flags illustrated with crocodiles and dragons and acrobats from local proverbs.

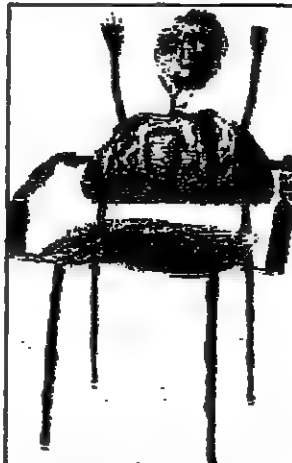
Among the numerous lengths of material, some printed with remarkable photographic likenesses, often political, are a colourful array of kangas, a rectangular cloth which has been the most popular woman's garment on the East African coast for 140 years and is valuable enough to be pawned in family emergencies. The kanga — its name derives from the Kiswahili word for guinea fowl, a bird noted for its chattering — is now threatened by second-hand clothes being imported from Europe.

Luxury gowns, which are the height of male fashion in Lagos, contrast with the installation by Yinka Shonibare of three ladies' Victorian-style costumes with bustles created using African wax prints, a humorous look at the complexity of influences on African textiles as well as pointing up their importance as a form of art.

The wax prints are perhaps



Kenyan cotton kanga, inscribed "Maziwa ya mama ni tamu" (mother's milk is sweet)



Recycled steel chair by Ajibike Oguny, Nigeria

the most intriguing textiles of all, stemming from 19th-century Dutch attempts to undercut Indonesian batik production and promoted in West Africa by former mercenaries repatriated there from the Far East. But the best-dressed African ladies now order top African fabrics from a firm in Manchester.

Barbican Art Gallery, London EC2 (0171 382 7105) until December 10

□ The Crafts Council's exuberant exhibition of African metalwork ranges from an

early 20th-century Malagasy crown, top-heavy with coloured stones, to a recycled steel chair sculpted as a human body by the Nigerian Ajibike Oguny. Metal work, whether decorative or mundane, is taken particularly seriously in Africa.

Little in this show is quite as it seems. Among the older artefacts, hoe blades from Central Africa turn out to be a form of currency; throwing-knives of various tribes prove impractical except as status symbols; iron bird staffs from Nigeria are an antidote to bad spells; exquisite miniature brass animals are actually Asante weights for measuring gold.

Appearance is similarly deceptive among more contemporary work such as Aaron Maledadi's shopping baskets from Zimbabwe ingeniously made out of an assortment of bottle tops, or the candles devised, also in Zimbabwe, by Aaron Masaka from recycled metal and inverted coloured lightbulbs.

Fine aluminium wall plaques of human and animal figures by the Nigerian Yekinni Folurosun follow in the Benin tradition, while so-called Benin bronzes, made famous after a British punitive expedition sacked the City of

Benin in 1897, are revealed to be made of brass, a more powerful metal for repelling evil. The only pity is that detailed information is not forthcoming on many of the pieces in this stunning show. Crafts Council Gallery, 44a Pentonville Road, London N1 (0171 278 7700) until November 19

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Postcard from Broadway: New York's top new shows reviewed by Benedict Nightingale

London galleries

THE TIMES ARTS

MUSIC 1

Less is more as the London Sinfonietta gives superb performances of Anton Webern

MUSIC 2

... while in Manchester the keys jangle at the RNCM's Glories of the Keyboard festival

DANCE 1

Not in front of the children: Matthew Bourne takes *Swan Lake* into the naughty Nineties

DANCE 2

Part love story, part mystery: Aletta Collins's new *This is the Picture* beguiles as it progresses

POP

OJ back on the menu

A DOZEN years after his crisp tune-crafting last got a serious look-in, Edwyn Collins suddenly came in from the cold and found a roaring fire awaiting him this year with *A Girl Like You*, a big, old-fashioned single whose ultimately irresistible hook and fuzz guitar are now an indelible part of the soundtrack of 1995.

Punters and programmers alike needed a second nudge to cash in this treasure, and were only given that chance because the record had meanwhile gained international notoriety. The song's Top Five placing in the summer and a subsequent, equally belated Top Ten spot for its parent album, *Gorgeous George*, amounted to the kind of comeback that is rarely seen in a world in which fashions change mid-song. For Collins to return to favour some 15 years after being a name to drop as leader of Scottish guitar group Or-

Edwyn Collins
Empire, W12

ange Juice is a feat of pure pop cryogenics. It turns out, of course, to be the same old pitiful Edwyn. It is merely the halls that got slightly bigger again, and a well-attended Empire took to Collins as soon as he arrived to the twangs of Heinz's *Just Like Eddie*. Solo at first, he presented a few acoustic selections, including a version of the beguiling Rod McKuen ballad *Love's Been Good to Me*, best known as a Frank Sinatra hit.

The unguarded romanticism of its lyric did not reappear: Collins's own style, often informed by 1960s and 1970s R&B, continues to be healthily sardonic and winningly melodic. *Make Me Feel Again*, from the current album, was a typical, sulky love song: "Don't need no forward planner, I'm acting on a whim/just need your bedside manner to make me feel again."

As ever, Collins played the ironic guitar hero, leaping and posing in white shoes and perennial quiff. One hoped it was ironic, because he is no ace king, but fellow guitarist Steve Skinner was on hand for support in a tight and affable band completed by Clare Kenny on bass and former Sex Pistols drummer Paul Cook. Helpings of Orange Juice were liberal, with *What Presence* and *Felicity* particularly engaging, and *Rip It Up* was played with a celebratory sense of fun. Welcome back from the deep freeze.

PAUL SEXTON

Fowl play with the boys

DANCE: Matthew Bourne's gender-bending *Swan Lake* is neither cheap gimmick nor gay polemic, he tells Allen Robertson

Matthew Bourne's career may be on a roll, but his new project is the biggest gamble he has ever risked. His company, Adventures in Motion Pictures, is odds-on favourite for the title of most popular dance troupe in Britain. It may have been in existence only since 1987, but it has twice been nominated for an Olivier Award.

Now Bourne is upping the ante by taking on *Swan Lake*, possibly the best-loved ballet in the entire canon. And although there is no doubt that he is giving it the full Bourne treatment, he is nonetheless taking an entirely different slant this time around.

The show, which opens at Sadler's Wells on Thursday, is an imaginative update of the original, complete with a scene in a Soho nightclub peopled by characters modelled on the Kray twins, Christine Keeler, Joe Orton, a well-known pop singer snorting cocaine — and Barbara Windsor as a barmaid. But, despite such arch invention, Bourne's intention is a world away from the satiric irony which made his earlier productions such giddy, crowd-pleasing delights.

"OK," Bourne says, "I am trying something new, something that is quite unusual for me, but I think it has more depth to it and I hope people will like it because, after all, that's the reason for doing it."

The eye-catching poster for *Swan Lake* features AMP stalwart Scott Ambler, as the Prince, posing nude with a swan nestled in his lap. That the swan in the picture, a live bird from a rent-a-pet talent agency, happens to be named Desmond is precisely the sort of thing that gives AMP devotees a good giggle. Add into the equation the fact that the Swan on the stage is not going to be a latter-day Margot Fonteyn but Adam Cooper, a handsome young man imported from the Royal Ballet, and you could be excused for thinking that Bourne is up to his old tricks.

He adamantly insists you would be wrong. Bourne, now 35, also insists that this is not as if he were rewriting Shakespeare as *Romeo and Romeo*. Far from trying to score politically correct points from a gay relationship, he is attempting to make legitimate contempo-

rary sense out of the most powerful and mysterious source the ballet world can claim as its own.

His reasons for changing the sex of the Swan are far from glib. For Bourne the Swan represents everything the Prince wishes he could be: free, unfettered, wild. So Cooper becomes a wish fulfilment, a representation of the eternally unobtainable.

Bourne says that the motivation for the Prince's fascination with the Swans (all of whom are danced by men) is a bit like the play *Eggs*. "That boy was obsessed with horses. For our Prince, the Swan represents something he aspires to, something he dreams about, but something he can't reconcile with his very restrictive royal life, with his cold mother, his press secretary and his rowdy American girlfriend."

To reinforce this view, Bourne begins the ballet with a child Prince having a dream about the Swan. "The reason for that is to show what the Prince's character was like as a boy, that he's always been a bit of a mess."

"The Prince is someone whose life is starved of love, starved of affection. Everyone's so distant from him. Nobody touches him. So, by the time we get to Act II, when the Prince meets the Swan, we see that he's a desperate and very lonely person, so you could interpret the Swan as his missing parental figure."

"It really is a comfort thing rather than a sexual thing; not unlike a guardian angel. And remember this is all happening in his head. My version of the story doesn't have anything to do with a medieval magician dressed up like an owl. The Swans aren't victims of some magic curse, they are figments of the Prince's imagination. It's much more the Prince's story and what they mean to him. The Swans are his escape, his mental escape."

That may be a fine psychological interpretation of the plot, but Bourne must realise that he is skating on thin ice. "Oh, I'm not denying that some people will look at it as a gay love story. But for me the Swan isn't sex, it's affection, it's tenderness. It is all the emotions the Prince can't have in his real life."

But if the Prince's vision of happiness is another man,

Aletta Collins likes stories, which is perhaps one reason why she is happy choreographing for the opera. She also likes words, and the piece performed by the Aletta Collins Dance Company as part of Dance Umbrella has a dance-theatre architecture which welds taped speech and song (Barbra Streisand, Richard Strauss's *Four Last Songs*) with dance and an instrumental score by Graham Fitkin.

This is the *Picture* pools the creative resources of Collins, Helen Cooper (writer) and Tom Cairns (the director and designer with whom Collins does all her work). It is part-love story, part-mystery, cleverly starting with a complex situation and then explaining it drop by drop, so that the fog of



"For me the Swan isn't sex, it's affection, it's tenderness," says Matthew Bourne

surely that makes it a gay love story? "I'm not denying that interpretation is there," Bourne says. "Of course you can read it that way because it is the story of someone who can't be himself. But I also think there's a lot more in there."

All right, so this is meant to be the tale of a demented dreamer who projects his fantasy life on to a Swan; but what is Bourne going to feel like if Cooper makes his first entrance and the audience starts laughing at the seeming incongruity? "Well, I won't be very happy."

But isn't that response almost inevitable? "I don't think so. But people can be odd. The people who are coming because they want to laugh, because they think we're going to be giving them a Michael Clark, dildos-and-streakers sort of evening, are the kind of people who think every minute of everything we do is funny. That's happened with some of our other shows and you can't stop that kind of thing. But I think that even if there are some laughs at the Swan's entrance they won't last for long, because there isn't really anything to laugh about."

"This is a tragedy and I'm not spending nearly three hours sending it up. That would be a bit over the top, don't you think?"

"Also I've very consciously tried to stage it from the music and with choreography rather than through jokes and with acting. I'm doing what I feel works with Tchaikovsky's fantastic music. I have consciously made it more dancey than anything that I've done before. If we can get it right, I defy anyone to laugh. But you never know until it's in front of an audience."

Swan Lake is by far the biggest AMP production. The cast numbers 32, backed by a full orchestra of 60 under the baton of David Lloyd-Jones. The elaborate sets and costumes are the creation of top stage designer Les Brotherston.

"If it all goes well on opening night," Bourne admits, "it will be as good as winning the lottery."

Also I've very consciously tried to stage it from the music and with choreography rather than through jokes and with acting. I'm doing what I feel works with Tchaikovsky's fantastic music. I have consciously made it more dancey than anything that I've done before. If we can get it right, I defy anyone to laugh. But you never know until it's in front of an audience."

Picture revealed from the fog of confusion

Aletta Collins
Riverside Studios

confusion gradually (and mostly) disperses and the second half becomes clearer and better than the first.

In Cairns's sparse, pastel bedroom, Daniel Belton is Alistair, sprawled in bed, deep in nocturnal dreams. Around him are the other performers:

Wisp of glory from the master

LS/Stenz
Queen Elizabeth Hall

NOWHERE is one more aware of Anton Webern's concern to pare things down to absolutely bare essentials than in the Six Pieces, Op 6, of 1909. And Sunday's London Sinfonietta concert underlined the point by giving the work in its chamber version.

One relished more than ever the edgewise flecks of sound, such as the barely attenuated string and clarinet sonorities, or the distant rumbles on bass drum, gong and bells. The Sinfonietta, under Markus Stenz, was supremely effective at suggesting the cusp between silence and sound.

Webern's music enclosed two recent scores, by Simon Bainbridge and Robert Saxton, each featuring a solo instrument. Bainbridge's *Landscape and Memory*, a Sinfonietta commission receiving its premiere, is scored for solo horn and chamber orchestra, with a second off-stage horn mimicking its counterpart out of phase.

The title, borrowed from Simon Schama's book, refers to the hazy, frozen musical soundscape — a stunningly suggestive effect — through which the protagonist (the eloquent Michael Thompson)

wends his sinuous path. This must be the only piece, too, in which a horn player has to operate snare drums, amplified with contact microphones, by his resonance alone.

Where the process of Bainbridge's work is so subtle that one hardly notices it, that of Saxton in *Psalm — A Song of Ascents*, heard originally in 1993, moves through a circle of ascending fifths. A further binding principle is its steady acceleration from slow to fast, reflecting a metaphysical shift from darkness to light. This beautifully elaborated work was intended as a song for the solo instrument rather than a conventional concerto, and John Wallace did well to curb his virtuoso instincts, even in the cadenza-like passage which leads off the final section. Three short choral works by Webern, admirably given by the London Sinfonietta Chorus, completed a superb concert.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Touch of poetry

Anne Queffelec
RNCM, Manchester

NO FESTIVAL has loftier ideals than the *Glories of the Keyboard* at the Royal Northern College of Music. Seeking, with support from the Broadwood Trust, to "reflect the many strands of genius and inspiration which have combined to form the keyboard repertoire of today", the artistic director, Renna Kellaway, put together more than 20 events in four days and still, of course, got nowhere near it.

A parade of the great and not necessarily very good dropped in more or less at random to deliver their regular recital routine. There was, however, Anne Queffelec, who came as a French specialist and stayed to present a master class, to give a recital and to take part in an anthology of concertos with the BBC Philharmonic.

The performance of *Jeux d'eau* at the beginning of her Ravel recital was, frankly, encouraging. It was so unforced, so deliberate, that it seemed that the poetic side of the composer had been sum-

marily rejected. But it was only 11am: by the time she had eased her way into *Miroirs*, by way of the *Sonatine*, poetry was very much in evidence. *Noctuelles*, which is perhaps the most elusive of the five pieces, was brilliantly capricious in its movements and inspired in its colouring.

There was no lack of fluidity in *Une Barque sur l'eau*, poised on floating rhythms and lashed by squalls of virtuosic figurations. *Oiseaux* tristes was so eerie in expression that it seemed doubly unfortunate that she had chosen to omit *Gaspard de la Nuit* from her programme.

The other major work was *Le Tombeau de Couperin* in an interpretation informed by a study of the Baroque keyboard techniques, which are a constant source of allusion in the work.

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Britain's teachers could do better. Discuss

Here, parents, is your starter for ten: who said the following and to whom? The history of national curricula in the world is not a very happy history. Fascist Germany had one. The USSR under Stalin had one. Mao Tse-tung had one. Greece under the colonels had one. The answer is that the statement was made by a professor at a lecture hall full of students at a... teacher training establishment.

We may wonder whether there is any connection between that incident and the one at a party for the staff at a school in Bristol, at which one of the teachers walked up to the head teacher's table and called him "a bastard", supported by loud applause from the rest of the staff.

Panorama: Class Struggle (BBC1) produced an excellent programme last night on the subject of teaching standards, which is no great surprise, because the doyen

of television current affairs has lately acquired a new muscularity after several years of paunchy performances.

One of the ghastly acronyms which marks this Government's proliferating quangos (there goes another one) recently produced a report on teaching standards. According to said acronym, Ofsted, Britain has 15,000 school teachers, teaching 400,000 children, who are not up to their jobs.

Of course if teacher training institutions are turning out teachers who have been told that a national curriculum is in some way a tenet of totalitarianism (France, for example, was a democracy the last time I looked) then a reluctance to teach it and a rebellious attitude to head teachers trying to introduce it is more or less inevitable.

But whether they like it or not, are the teachers fit to teach? And can we get rid of the minority who

are not? The problem seems to be largely generational: the programme identified schools, such as the extreme Bristol case, where teachers used to the old ways are stamping their feet and crying for mother like a room full of four-year-olds denied more of the cake that made them sick yesterday.

Yet in other schools, especially inner-city ones that were on their last legs a few years ago, new brooms have swept in and brought a new generation of teachers with them, intent on making the national curriculum work. But the battle to protect duff teachers continues.

In one case, a woman teacher was advised to resign after her probationary year: her headmaster had written a report about her which said: "If I had a child in her class I would be very worried." The National Union of Teachers intervened, the education author-

ity caved in to pressure and the teacher was moved to another school.

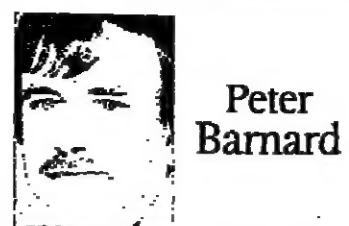
Oddly, she was then posted back to the first school, where parents raised a petition to get her out. Eventually she was formally suspended but as that came into effect the teacher got a job in another borough. You can just imagine Joe Stalin standing for this nonsense.

Germaine Greer is a no-nonsense type of a different order. She was in glimmering form in *Face to Face* (BBC2), resisting all attempts to categorise her feminism, past or present. Nowadays her perceptive intelligence is more vivid than ever and her refusal to accept that there is or ever was a single movement called feminism is expressed with defiant rhetoric: "Why do people suppose we should be like a nun with a mother superior?"

Jeremy Isaacs tossed down a few rotten banana skins but she refused to fall over and after a while he decided to let her back and enjoy it. I think Greer genuinely dislikes talking about herself but she did go over the early life, including the rape at 19 (which she has written about) and the abortion at the same age. "But I'm not pro-abortion, that's like being pro-amputation."

Greer has of course had the good sense to avoid being dragged along as the totem for any passing

REVIEW



Peter Barnard

choice in to pressure and the teacher was moved to another school.

CHOICE



Portrait of the oil baron J. Paul Getty (TV, 10.40pm)

Network First: The Gettys (TV, 10.40pm)

The troubles of our own Royal Family are but a mere bagatelle compared with the trials suffered by America's equivalent, the Getty dynasty. In this lavishly two-parter, the history and legacy of J. Paul Getty, the world's richest man, is told with the aid of previously unseen private family footage. It is an unlikely story about an unlikely man. Paranoid, deeply reserved and notoriously mean (he installed a payphone for his guests at his English mansion, Sutton Place), he was chronically unable to show love to any of his offspring. By the end of this episode one son has committed suicide, another is a casualty of the Swinging Sixties and one is dead from a brain tumour. Yet Getty's *annus horribilis* is still to come.

Nice Work: Death of a Bank Manager

BBC2 9.30pm

Once upon a time bank managers were pillars of the community: respected, middle-class and secure in their jobs until retirement. Now, with the introduction of computers and sales targets, all that has changed. The third in this excellent series about white-collar workers under siege concentrates on the erosion of a middle-class bastion. Former bank managers (all men, of course) relate their experiences of how it was before the 1980s and how it is now. From being a figure of authority the bank manager has become little more than a stressed-out salesman. Chris Pettit's film has stylish flourishes such as captioned buzzwords and neat editing but the relevance of the car park footage and a naked lady wandering around is somewhat puzzling.

Without Walls: My Generation

Channel 4 9.30pm

Those haircuts currently adorning the heads of the Britpop bands such as Pulp and Blur will be very familiar to those who remember the Small Faces. Described by writer Charles Shaar Murray as white soul boys on acid, these East End lads are the first of another trio of pop bands to get rehabilitated. (Others to follow are the Yardbirds and, strangely, Herman's Hermits.) The surviving members (gravel-voiced Steve Marriott died in a house fire in 1991) tell the familiar story of rip-offs, adulation and drug-crazed lunacy. They were so financially screwed-up that Ronnie Lane, now suffering from multiple sclerosis, is struggling to pay his medical bills. Litigation is in progress to claw back those royalties. Also in the slot is the last of the car-design series, which is devoted to that Tardis on wheels, the People Mover.

The Booker Prize

BBC2 3.10pm

There's nothing quite like the Booker prize for causing unprecedented amounts of publicity through the controversy it seems destined to arouse. This live coverage from London's Centre of the Book, the announcement of the winner will be preceded, as in previous years, by an alternative panel giving their opinions on the remaining five and making their personal choice. This year, Sarah Dunant chairs the discussion between writers Howard Jacobson and Michelle Roberts and Bill Buford, former editor of the *Granta*. Will Salman Rushdie win for a record second time with his *The Moor's Last Sigh*? Frances Less

CARLTON

- 6.00am GMTV (9177367)
- 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (9426281)
- 9.55 London Today (Teletext) (4231754)
- 10.00 The Time... the Place (s) (8043571)
- 10.35 This Morning (7215753)
- 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (9821194)
- 12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (9934858)
- 12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (9846849)
- 1.25 Emmerdale (t) (Teletext) (50036197)
- 1.55 A Country Practice (s) (9206655)
- 2.20 Vanessa: I Married a Comedian (Teletext) (s) (70235281) 2.50 Capital Woman (s) (2796823)
- 3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8505539)
- 3.25 London Today (Teletext) (8997910)
- 3.30 Giggly Allsorts (s) (5923804) 3.40 Tots TV (s) (215465) 3.50 Hot Rod Dogs (s) (5927620)
- 4.05 The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat (5193007) 4.15 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries (6446194)



Paula comforts cancer patient Swiftly (4.40pm)

- 4.40 The Ward (s) (2105194)
- 5.10 After 5 with Carol Keating An interview with Luther Vandross. (Teletext) (7106587)
- 5.40 ITN News and weather (Teletext) (949620)
- 5.55 Your Shout: Viewers' opinions (879378)
- 6.00 Home and Away (t) (Teletext) (571)
- 6.30 London Tonight. (Teletext) (823)
- 7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (1842)
- 7.30 **NEW** The Tuesday Special: Fire Raisers. With arson increasing at a record rate, an investigation into why fire raisers do it (s) (197)
- 8.00 The Bill: With This Body A corpse in a car poses a problem for Boyden and Hollis as the dead man seems to have led a double life. With Tony O'Callaghan, Jeff Stewart and Geraldine Griffiths (Teletext) (7262)
- 8.30 **NEW** The Cook Report. Roger Cook and his team expose intimidating bullies, crooked art dealers and lathers availing payment to the mothers of their children (6397)
- 9.00 Soldier, Soldier: Leaving. Army drama. Garvey's future is uncertain when he is accused of attacking another soldier. (Teletext) (s) (3533)
- 10.00 ITN News at Ten and weather (20755)
- 10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (878281)
- 10.40 **NEW** Network First: The Gettys - A Tragedy of Riches. (Teletext) (434688)
- 11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (821945)
- 12.40am War and Remembrance (t) (169682)
- 2.35 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (t) (s) (5196663)
- 3.00 The Best (s) (8256663)
- 3.55 America's Top Ten (s) (18713882) 4.25 On the Live Side. Music by Lee Ritenour and Ron Carter (s) (1990205)
- 4.30 Videofashion. Architects of Style. Fashion magazine series (40798)
- 5.00 Vanessa (t) (Teletext) (s) (26084)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News (65972). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.35am Heathcliff Cartoon series (t) (8213084)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (67129)
- 9.00 Evening News (t) (s) (33064)
- 9.30 Schools. Eureka! (486337) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (495852) 10.00 Fourways Farm (5804820)
- 10.10 Maths Everywhere (3934216) 10.25 How We Used to Live (3840823) 10.45 Caracal (7186644)
- 11.00 New Living Body (1007561) 11.20 Stage One (686558) 11.35 Film and Video Showcase (4256910) 11.45 First Edition (4299484)
- 12.00 Spirits, Ghosts and Demons A three-part series on what is like for children in contemporary China (t) (Teletext) (s) (27658)
- 12.30pm Sesame Street. With the band Zap Mama (76129) 1.30 Widgey (t) (s) (2579567)
- 1.55 Australia Wild. Flora and fauna (25661378)
- 2.25 FILM: The Gentle Gunman (1382) starring John Mills, Dirk Bogarde, Elizabeth Sellers, Barbara Mullen. A Second World War drama about two London brothers who are both involved with the IRA until one renounces violence. Directed by Michael Relph and Basil Dearden. (Teletext) (708674)
- 4.00 Think Tank. Team quiz. (Teletext) (s) (736)
- 4.30 Fifteen to One with William G. Stewart. (Teletext) (s) (620)
- 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (t). (Teletext) (s) (4220113) 5.30 Terrytoons (955129)
- 6.00pm The Avengers: Castle De'Ath. Spoil secret agent adventures starring Patrick Macnee and Diana Rigg. In Castle De'Ath Steed becomes a strapping Jack and Emma lays a ghost. (Teletext) (s) (42465)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (527129)
- 7.55 The Slot. Viewers' video snapshot (776397)
- 8.00 Dosh. Magazine series about people, presented by the self-made millionaire Shant Ahmed. Includes a report from the Shakerley council estate, near Wigan, on how many people could not claim part of the £3 billion worth of unclaimed benefits every year. (Teletext) (s) (5804)
- 8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (4939)
- 9.00 **NEW** Without Walls: Autocentric. (Teletext) (s) (5649) 9.30 Without Walls: My Generation. (Teletext) (s) (47910)

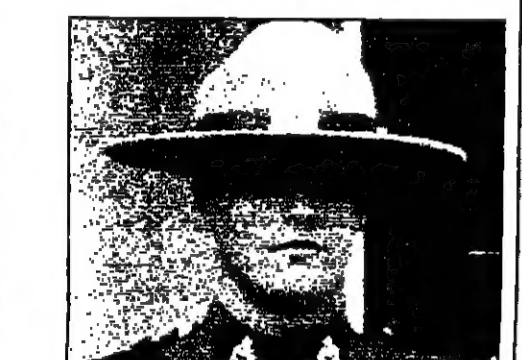


Vanessa Redgrave as Miss Amelia (10.00pm)

- 10.00 FILM: The Ballad of the Sad Café (1991) starring Vanessa Redgrave and Keith Carradine. A drama set during the Depression in a small town in the Deep South, marking the directorial debut of Simon Callow. (Teletext) (s) (602281)
- 11.55 Nurses. Black comedy set in a Florida hospital (Teletext) (s) (338465)
- 12.30am Football Italia - Mezzanotte. Highlights of AC Milan v Cagliari (7537040)
- 1.25 World Tennis. From Paris, the last of the Super Nine tournaments (3840595)
- 1.55 The Sahara Project. (7/8) German drama about scientists trying to find an alternative energy source for Europe in the Sahara. Starring Helmut Berger and Peter Bonzart. Dubbed in English (1297021). Ends at 2.55

BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (27842)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (94840939)
- 9.10 Kilroy (s) (4473007)
- 10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5900858) 10.05 Housemates (s) (8530561)
- 10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (4504674)
- 12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9825910) 12.05pm Pebble Mill With David Nobbs and Sean Maguire (s) (4061858) 12.50 Regional News (2369810)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News and weather (71378)
- 1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (2566049) 1.55 Columbo (t) (773687) 3.05 Incongruity (s) (122982)
- 3.30 Funnybones (t) (s) (6110533) 3.35 Blinky Bill (5443823) 4.00 Oscar's Office (s) (6097303) 4.25 Animal Hospital (s) (5284303)
- 4.35 **NEW** I'll Never Work. The science show returns (s) (1081397)
- 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (8176303)
- 5.10 Byker Grove (Ceefax) (5698904)
- 5.35 Neighbours (t) (Ceefax) (s) (606378)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (303)
- 6.30 Regional news magazines (755)
- 7.00 Holiday. Includes Jill Dando taverna hopping in Crete. (Ceefax) (s) (9674)
- 7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (939)



Paul Gross in a farcical plot (9.00pm)

- 8.00 Due South. An attempt to deliver an important letter from the Canadian Embassy goes awry and Fraser is caught between a bride, a groom and a rubbish ship. With Paul Gross (Ceefax) (s) (789656)
- 8.50 How to Be a Little S*dy: Male Bonding. with Rik Mayall. (Ceefax) (s) (164303)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2939)
- 9.30 Crimewatch File: Going Under. When two elderly men were murdered in Lincoln in 1991, police had very little to go on until traces of paint on an axe-head led them on a journey across Europe and back to Lincoln to the killer. Presented by Nick Ross (Ceefax) (s) (102282) Wales: Week in Week Out (54200) 10.00 The Dragon Writes Back (916129) 10.10 Rugby. Llanelli. (s) (885684) 11.30 Film: Shout (582303) 12.55am Film: Movers and Shakers (2175430) 2.10 News headlines and weather (7526158)
- 10.25 FILM: Shout (1991). With John Travolta, James Walters, Linda Fiorentino, Heather Graham, Richard Jordan. In 1950s rural Texas, a young offender falls in love with the daughter of the murdered woman of the home. Directed by Jeffrey Hemsley (Ceefax) (s) (1211939)
- 11.50 FILM: Movers and Shakers (1985) with Walter Matthau, Charles Grodin, Vincent Gardenia and Tyne Daly. A Hollywood producer buys the film rights to the book *Love in Sex*, to keep a deadbeat promise, and hires a neurotic writer to turn it into a screen romance. Directed by William Asher (905378) 1.05am Weather (3502311)

BBC2

- 6.00am Perpetual Motion (51397) 6.30 The Net (41649)
- 7.00 Breakfast News (4167591) 7.15 Lancelotti (8666754) 7.40 The Legend of Prince Valiant (t) (s) (1472674) 8.05 Blue Peter (t) (s) (3533910) 8.35 The Record (s) (4316194)
- 9.00 Daytime on Two Educational programmes Plus. for children. 10.00-10.25 Playdays (6930787)
- 2.00 The Family News (t) (7626875) 2.05 Christopher Crocodile (t) (70287026)
- 2.10 A Century of Warfare: The Eastern Front 1941-43 (s) (8193533)
- 3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather. Westminster with Nick Ross (7050842) 3.55 News (Ceefax) and weather (5912668)
- 4.00 Today's Day (s) (668) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (552) 5.00 Esther Immigration (s) (4552)
- 5.30 Going Going Gone. Auction game (904)
- 6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air. American teen comedy (t) (s) (182622)
- 6.25 Heartbreak High. Australian drama series. (Ceefax) (s) (582281)
- 7.10 Dear Dilemma Dramatised crises that are then discussed by celebrities. (Ceefax) (s) (65216)
- 7.30 From the Edge. Magazine series made by disabled people for the disabled. (Ceefax) (s) (281)
- 8.00 Life's Lottery: It Could be Smethwick. The vicar of Smethwick Old Church, Birmingham, Martin Gorick, understands why people fantasise about winning the National Lottery, but he believes the money spent on tickets could be better used for the community (s) (335133)



Sarah Dunant and Tracey MacLeod (8.10pm)

- 8.10 **NEW** The Booker Prize (s) (940842)
- 9.00 Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads? Classic comedy (t). (Ceefax) (3281)
- 9.30 **NEW** Nice Work: Death of a Bank Manager. (Ceefax) (s) (468465)
- 10.10 Tools of the Trade (colour and b/w). The series taking a light-hearted look at people's relationship with work. Uniforms, why do they wear them? Employers, and what is their function? (Ceefax) (s) (840874)
- 10.30 Newswatch with Peter Snow. (Ceefax) (788262)
- 11.15 The Camera at War. The story behind ten of the most famous photographs of the Vietnam War (t) (s) (653026)
- 11.55 Weather (266842)
- 12.00 The Midnight Hour with Sarah Baxter. Political chat show (s) (77717)
- 12.30am The Learning Zone

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VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA**
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TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7 1995

Thirteen-man code fixes plans for European competition and world championship

Super League sidesteps closer union

By Christopher Irvine

RUGBY league made a ringing declaration of independence yesterday when it launched the European Super League at Headingley. The mutterings for unification with rugby union, now open, after 100 years were firmly laid to rest.

On the back of a highly successful World Cup, expansion and global influence are not the fanciful and grandiose notions of a few months ago. The domestic and international calendar for the first summer Super League season next year, leading up to further World Cups in this country in 1997 and in Australia to coincide with the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, is awash with ambition the sport has always had, and is now in a position to cultivate.

Maurice Lindsay, chief executive of the Rugby Football League, was bullish about the future. "I think the question of unification has gone away. We were the weaker partner. Rugby union had more countries, more players, more administrators that's for sure. But the World Cup was an indication of exciting development in places like Western Samoa, Fiji, Tonga and the Cook Islands," he said.

"I think we should give these countries every opportunity and, therefore, international rugby league will stand alone against rugby union. It might not be as big in the early stages, but I think you can watch this space. The two sports will run competitively and strongly, with growth, side by side."

Eleven countries have thrown in their lot with Super League, leaving the Australian Rugby League (ARL), the only governing body not signed up alone on the now defunct international board. A new board is being created under the auspices of Super League, whose international remit is significantly broader than at any time in the game's history.

As Super League and ARL continue their court fight in Sydney for control of the game, it is increasingly apparent there will be rival competitions in Australia from March

next year. Mal Meninga, the former Australia captain and one of the forces behind Super League, sees the ARL withering on the vine. "They will fold and I think you'll see one competition three years down the track," he said.

In turn, the ARL claims Super League, although it has a ten-team Australasian league in place, will neither be legally nor competitively fit to start. With the backing of The News Corporation, the parent company of The Times, Super League confidently announced its first schedule, culminating in world club championship play-offs between the top four sides in the European and Australasian competitions, and a final in Australia before a ten-match tour by Great Britain.

The 12-team European league, including Paris, will be played on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, generally at night, with half the matches screened live on Sky Television from March 29. As well as world play-offs, the top four will play in an end-of-season Premiership in September. A one-up, one-down system will operate with the first division.

Newcastle and a side in Cardiff, the more remote of the two possibilities, could be fast-tracked into an expanded Super League by 1997. The Challenge Cup survives the upheaval, but its position in the calendar after next year has still to be decided.

Internationally, the triangular European championship will operate as a midweek competition in June, and from 1997, will become a five-nations' tournament, with Ireland and Scotland, which could also stage its first home match at Hampden Park next autumn, when the winners of a new Oceania Cup, for the South Pacific nations, will tour here. This coincides with Great Britain's tour, with six international matches against Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. There is a five-year commitment to Fiji hosting a World Nines competition in February featuring 16 nations.

Lindsay expects Ireland, Scotland and the Cook Islands



Meninga, the former Australia captain, and Lindsay, the Rugby Football League chief executive, left, offer their vision of the future in Leeds yesterday. Photograph: Paul Barker

to have made sufficient strides to compete in the World Cup proper in 1997 and that Canada, Japan, Italy and Spain will be included in the emerging nations event. Hong Kong, Tokyo and San Francisco have been earmarked as venues for world club championship finals.

For a sport riddled by parochial inertia in Britain, which only in April failed to agree mergers of clubs a few miles apart, these are heady, worrying, exciting times. The rationalisation process has, in effect, come in by stealth, with Super League. The haves outweigh the have-nots, who might not share Lindsay's stated ambition yesterday: "To take our game to the rest of the world."

RUGBY LEAGUE'S NEW OPPONENTS

Selected matches of the weekend against the main events of the traditional summer

June 7-9: Wigan v London
The Derby, Epsom
June 21-23: Paris v Warrington
England v India, Lord's Test
July 5-7: Bradford v St Helens
Men's final, Wimbledon
July 12-14: Sheffield v Leeds
British grand prix
July 19-21: Paris v Wigan
Open Championship
July 26-28: St Helens v London
England v Pakistan, Lord's Test

Warming to summer

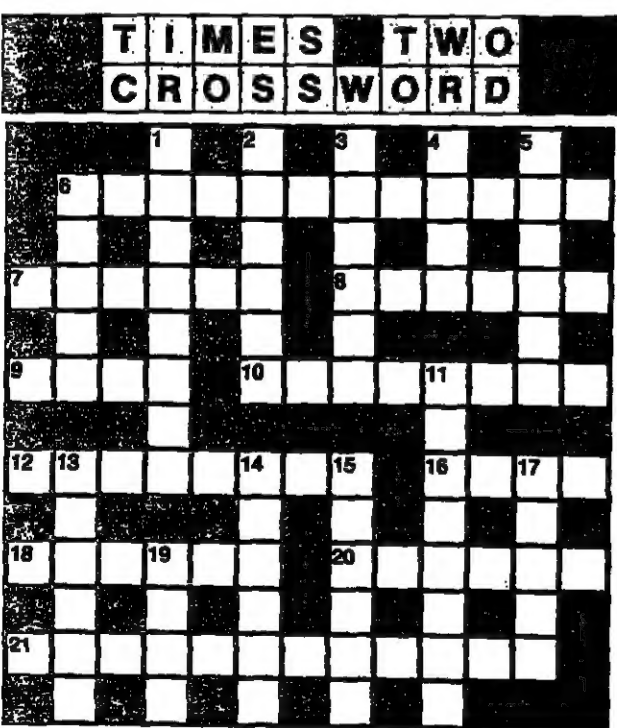
RUGBY league is in a whole new ball game, and not the round and oval-shaped ones it has been used to competing with for more than a century (Christopher Irvine writes). These come smaller, in the shape of tennis, cricket and golf balls, part of the traditional English summer sporting heritage.

With the European football championship in England in June and the Olympic Games in Atlanta in July and August, 1996 is hardly an auspicious year to launch a summer sport whose active support in winter is only 50,000. Televised delights will never have been so ample.

The March to September season holds out the prospect of warm nights, firmer grounds, slicker entertainment and pre-match extravaganzas, but loyalists and potential newcomers face tricky choices: the Wimbledon men's final or Bradford v St Helens? Open Championship golf or Paris v Wigan? Lord's Test or Leeds v Leeds?

In the fight for exposure, rugby league could be exchanging one set of problems for another. Of course, Central Park, Headingley and Knowsley Road could join Henley, Royal Ascot and Wimbledon as the places to be seen.

March 29-31: First round, Bradford Bulls v Castleford, Halifax v London Broncos, Leeds v Warrington, Paris v Sheffield Eagles, Wigan v Oldham, Warrington Town v St Helens
Sep 1: Premiership semi-final
Sep 8: Premiership final, Old Trafford
Sep 14: World club championship quarter-final, Match A, European champions v Australian fourth place, Match B, European runners-up v Australian third place
Sep 15: World club championship quarter-final, Match C, Australian winners v European fourth place, Match D, Australian runners-up v European third place
Sep 20: European semi-final, Match A winners v Match B winners, at Old Trafford or Blend Road
Sep 21: Australian semi-final, Match C winners v Match D winners, Sydney
Sep 22: World club championship final, Sydney
10-team Australasian Super League starts March 1



No 620

ACROSS

- 6 Brought on quickly; rained (12)
7 Raise agreed house price (6)
8 Part engraved on Mary's heart (6)
9 Sharp; interested (4)
10 Upset; anguish (8)
12 Twistable lid (5,3)
16 Gangster's girl - Flanders (10)
18 Verbose (6)
20 Muscular, forceful (6)
21 Heater used in lab (6,6)

DOWN

- 1 Ordered succession (8)
2 Paid extra; recommended (6)
3 Acrobat, clown etc entertainment (6)
4 Surety money (4)
5 Run (eg of TV programme) (6)
6 Talk emptily (5)
11 Cud-chewer (8)
13 Get cosy; shrink in embarrassment (4,2)
14 Raising money; generous (6)
15 One trying falsely to impress (6)
17 Further down; scowl (5)
19 Whip blow (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 619

ACROSS: 1 Quasimodo 6 Tug 8 Adore 9 Leeward 10 Bon mot 12 Hinge 13 Misery 14 Fungus 17 Class 19 Drearly 21 Burgundy 22 Knelt 23 Eve 24 Test match
DOWN: 1 Quay 2 Amorous 3 Ire 4 Oblate 5 Open house 6 Train 7 Goddess 11 Mare's nest 13 Macbride 15 Garment 16 Adonis 18 Agree 20 Utah 22 Kim

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Clubs seek £1m to fund new era

By David Hands
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND'S leading rugby union clubs laid out their stall yesterday for the game's new professional era, and the initial price tag for the goods on offer will be £1 million. That is the new money the first-division clubs believe they must find, for each club per season, to properly fund an elite game.

English First Division Clubs Ltd (EFDC), the company established by the ten leading clubs plus Northampton of the second division, unveiled their proposals 48 hours before the Rugby Football Union (RFU) will do the same. Perhaps to the surprise of some, their findings may not be too far apart.

When the RFU established its commission in September, the clubs expressed no confidence in its constitution. Since then they have had extensive contact with the commission, and Peter Wheeler, the Leicester president who chairs the EFDC, said: "Anyone involved in rugby will find that much of what we are saying is based on common sense."

The clubs seek direct representation in the running of competitions, particularly in

the commercial negotiations by which they hope to benefit. A leading plank of their report is for one contract only, between club and player, and for some system of regulation in a transfer system.

"For the first time ever we have views on issues agreed by all the first-division clubs," Wheeler said.

Pilkington Cup draw 44

The clubs have considered the contractual arrangements of their counterparts in rugby league, cricket and football and acknowledge that most of their member clubs already have contracts drawn up, despite the RFU's moratorium for the season on the implementation of professional regulations. "We need to know very quickly what the ground rules will be for next season," Wheeler said.

"We need to know what income we will get from competitions next season, then we can properly put our players under contract. We feel a target figure of £1 million per club per season would be achievable for the funding of a professional game."

But Wheeler emphasised that money would not come from competitions other than those in which the clubs are involved, in which

respect they expect a healthy return from television rights and sponsorship, as well as gate receipts.

They want to share such returns equally across the first-division board, but those clubs that go furthest in cup competitions should be permitted to capitalise on their success. Their projected European and cross-border competitions, however, depend on the national unions re-arranging their domestic seasons along similar lines, to allow for a season starting with a domestic league, then a European League, a domestic cup and, finally, international rugby, played in April and possibly May.

Wheeler also projects a scenario in which clubs from both rugby codes, union and league, make joint application for government funding of capital projects.

Murphy retires and reaches for Sky

By Richard Evans
RACING CORRESPONDENT

LESS than a month after the most courageous and, perhaps, most controversial sporting comeback of the year, Declan Murphy yesterday announced his retirement from the ranks of National Hunt jockeys.

The Irishman, whose style in the saddle is matched only by his eloquence out of it, is to pursue a career in television. He is joining Sky Television's Racing Channel, which went on air for the first time yesterday morning. Murphy, 28, made a winning return to race riding at Chepstow on October 10, 17 months after a life-threatening fall at Haydock which left him with a fractured skull and on a life-

support machine for four days.

His victory, on the Geoff Lewis-trained Jibereen, at the Welsh course prompted an inquiry by the Jockey Club into possible race-fixing. Jibereen was never challenged as he made all the running and landed a significant on-course gamble.

No sooner had Murphy confirmed his intention on the new Racing Channel to quit as a rider, than the Jockey Club's Security Department announced an investigation into betting patterns had failed to produce any evidence suggesting there had been a breach of the Rules of Racing.

Murphy said: "I was offered the job on the Racing Channel quite a while ago



Murphy: television career

and it was hard to weigh up. But winning on my comeback ride was such a high that I thought no matter what I did afterwards would be an anticlimax.

"I gave up riding for two

weeks afterwards to see if I would miss it and I felt that I didn't miss it at all. I would never have allowed race-riding to be taken away from me by accident but having come back and found I was riding as well as ever I had nothing to prove to anyone.

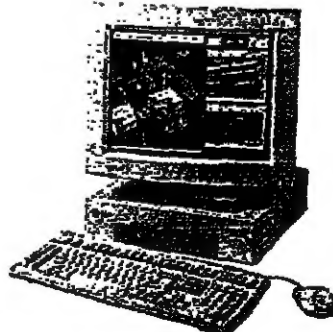
"I'll be working on the breakfast and lunchtime programmes."

Josh Gifford, the Findon trainer who retained Murphy as a jockey, said: "He's a very sensible lad. It's a sport where you have to give 120 per cent - if you have any doubts you should give up. It's a regrettable decision but I'm pleased for him as he had a horrible fall and it's a miracle he came back at all."

Waterhouse's role, page 45

MORSE

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